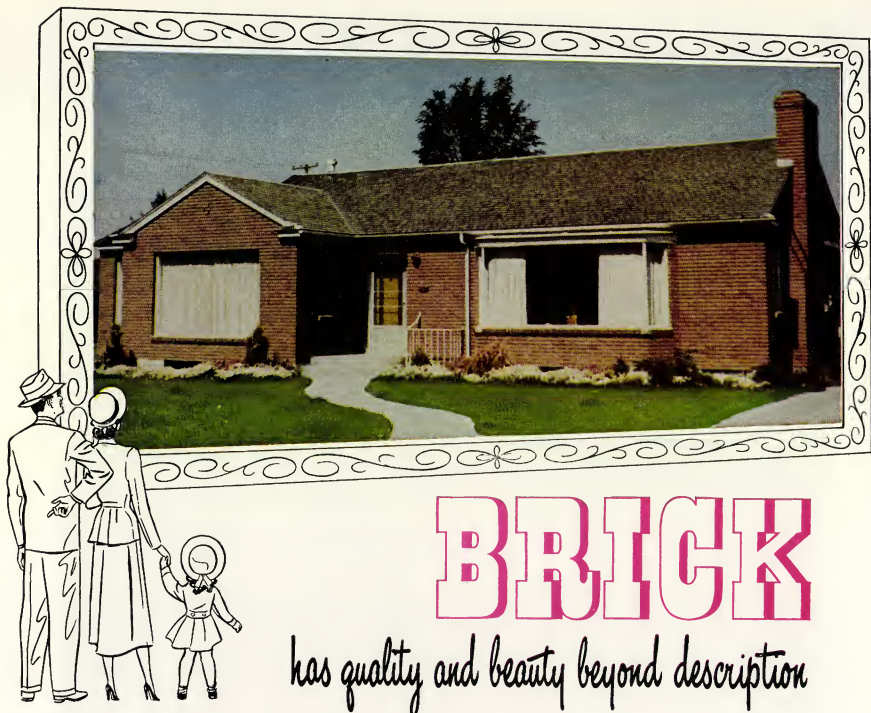


The IMPROVEMENT ERA

SEPTEMBER 1953



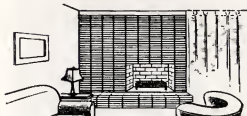
PRESIDENT DAVID O. McKAY



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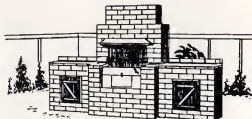
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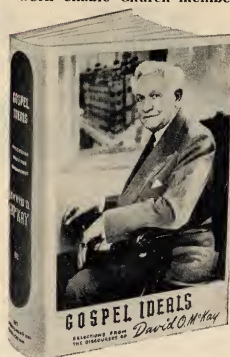
DAVID O. MCKAY



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to

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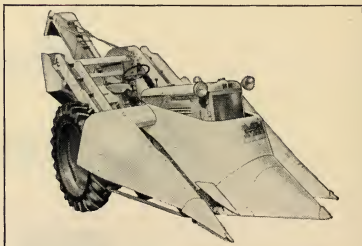
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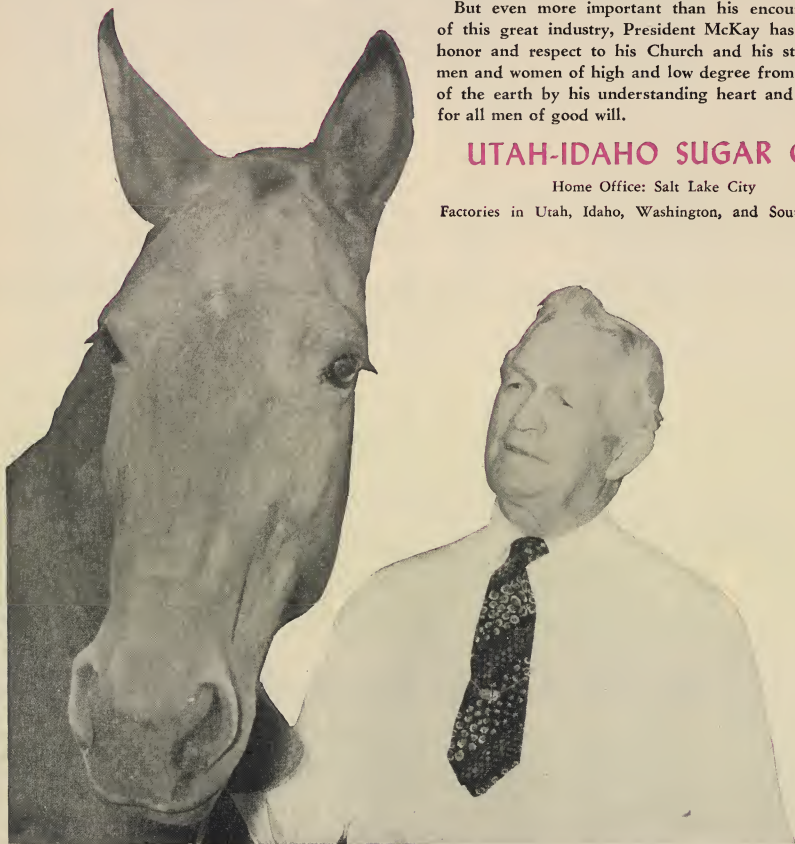
THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



In the light of faith, President David O. McKay has built a practical and noble life. May it continue to glow before his fellow men for many years to come.

Utah Power & Light Company

HAIL OUR PRESIDENT!



To more than a million members of his Church, the Honorable David O. McKay is revered "president." In a special sense, to thousands of stockholders of this company in virtually every state of the nation, and to other thousands of sugar beet growers and office and factory workers in six western states, this distinguished and venerable leader is "our president."

Like every president of the Church since Brigham Young, who directed the first venture to make sugar from sugar beets in western America, President David O. McKay has been a zealous and effective champion of this vital western industry.

Under his wise and courageous leadership, the Intermountain area's first sugar company is now entering a new phase of solid expansion — the completion, this fall, in the heart of the great Columbia Empire near Moses Lake, in Washington, of one of America's most modern beet sugar factories.

But even more important than his encouragement of this great industry, President McKay has brought honor and respect to his Church and his state from men and women of high and low degree from all parts of the earth by his understanding heart and his love for all men of good will.

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EXPLORING THE Universe

by Dr. Franklin S. Harris, Jr.

POPPING of corn and other grains was practised early in human history. Popped corn has been found in early sites in North and South America. In India rice is popped by stirring it in hot sand.

STUART ROBERTSON estimates that one-fourth of all our spoken language is made up of the use of the words *and, be, have, it, of, the, to, will, you, I, a, on, that and is*. An examination of five million words written by adults found the ten most common were *I, the, and, to, of, in, we, for, you, and a*.

EXTENDED physiological research by a group of University of Rochester physiologists made during World War II found that in the desert: the loss of water by the body is no greater when it is drunk just as rapidly as the man wants to drink it, as when he saves it until long after that time is past; that it seems worthless to aim at relieving thirst sensations by drugs or chewing or mouthing a pebble; that it is better to have water inside than to carry it, for one is then more efficient and comfortable; it has not been found possible to relieve dehydration by any means except water; there is no evidence that a man can train himself by any scheme of training, to get along on less and less water for any length of time.

THE locust plague in the Middle East, which became very serious in 1951, is being met by international co-operation and Point Four aid from the United States. Prompt Point Four aid with aerial methods and the new insecticide Aldrin demonstrated in Iran, Pakistan, and India that there is hope for permanent control. Ordinarily just a grasshopper, in periods of from 10 to 17 years determined by environmental conditions the locust puts on muscle and a scowl, changes color, develops longer wings, shorter legs, higher temperature, and an insatiable appetite and takes to the skies. In flight there may be twenty locusts a cubic yard in a cloud from one to five hundred feet deep. When settled, they can be as dense as 10,000 a square yard and 600 to 800 tons an acre. Swarms sometimes fly as far as 2000 miles.

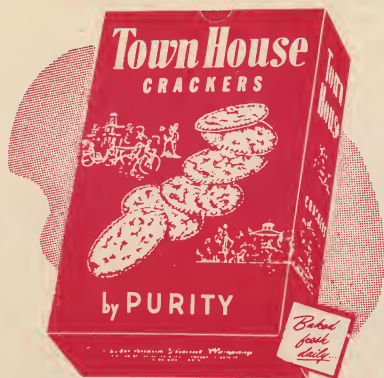
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Bite into a delicious TOWN HOUSE Cracker. Discover the completely different flavor of these crisp, tender, golden-brown ovals.

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THE DOMINION OF CANADA

ALL inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere should be grateful for at least two things. First, is that they have for their northernmost neighbor the Dominion of Canada. Second, we should appreciate the fact that the dominion, occupying its northern position, is the largest state in area in the Western Hemisphere.

Both facts have enormous significance in these times.

The people of the world live in the Northern Hemisphere, by and large. The great populous cities, centers of industrial and military power, are in the northern hemisphere: London, New York, Paris, Berlin, Moscow, Tokyo, Shanghai, even Calcutta, not to mention Montreal, Toronto, Detroit, Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Canada occupies 3,845,774 square miles of land. It lies below many of the strategic air-routes of communication between these centers. Canada is an Atlantic and a Pacific power of major importance; more than most people realize. The air space above its land is among the most important in the world. The people and the institutions on the land are peace-loving, freedom-loving, and God-fearing. They are the best kind of neighbors. All should appreciate Canada more, for what it is, and what it is destined to become.

Yet, most residents of the United States are ignorant concerning Canada. Canadians can tell us how many states in the Union; even name most of the forty-eight. They know our Presidents and our policies. In a recent survey, eighty-three percent of all Canadian students examined could give correct answers to such questions about the United States, including the names and leaders of our major political parties. Contrariwise, only forty-eight percent of the America students examined, could offer correct replies concerning Canada.

Canada today is a free, independent nation containing 14,009,429 people (1951 Canadian census). It contains one of the largest French-speaking cities in the world, Montreal, with 1,021,520 inhabitants. Ottawa, its capital, contains 202,045. Its eight largest cities are: (1951)

Montreal	1,021,520
Toronto	675,754
Vancouver	344,833
Winnipeg	235,710
Hamilton	208,321

by Dr. G. Homer Durham

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Ottawa	202,045
Quebec	164,016
Edmonton	159,631

Nearly sixty-two percent of all Canadians are urban folk, dwelling in places of one thousand or more. The remaining thirty-eight percent are rural. These people are governed under a great constitutional scheme, whose basis is the British North America Act of 1867 as amended. There is no appeal possible from the courts of Canada to the courts of the United Kingdom. The Canadian Parliament and not the Parliament at London, since 1949, has the power to amend its basic constitutional scheme. Independent, even in the field of foreign and military affairs since 1914-1919, the symbolic link with the British crown is the post of Governor-General of Canada. Since February 28, 1952, this post has been held by Vincent Massey, Canadian-

born, and a brother of the well-known actor, Raymond Massey. Mr. Massey is Governor-General, but he does not govern; neither is he a general. The government is in the hands of Parliament, a two-chambered body consisting of a Senate and a House of Commons. The senate has 102 members, named for life (corresponding somewhat to the British House of Lords). Appointments to the Senate, when vacancies occur, are really controlled by the Cabinet (from the House of Commons), although appointees are nominally made by the Governor-General. Ontario and Quebec, the two older provinces, have twenty-four Senators each. The remaining fifty-four are distributed among the other eight provinces, none having fewer than six.

The House of Commons, the real seat of power, seats 262 at this time. A political party and its leadership must control a majority (at least 132) to form a government, headed by a cabinet and the ministers of state. The present party in power, hence the government, is the Liberal Party, led by Louis St. Laurent, who is therefore the Prime Minister of Canada and who corresponds to President Eisenhower in the U.S.A. The Liberal Party has controlled the government for many years. The

(Continued on page 678)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

You are invited to join Martha Meade's

Recipe Exchange Club



1. Do you have an interesting recipe? One that you are proud of? Then you are invited to join Martha Meade's Recipe Exchange Club. This is a club devoted to good home-making and good food. It aims to give recognition to women who are contributing to the enjoyment and traditions of friendly western living. It offers a wonderful opportunity for you to make new friends.

2. Here's how the Club works. Each homemaker who sends in a cherished recipe becomes a member. The initiation fee for joining is the word "Sperry" cut from the front of any size sack of Sperry Drifted Snow Flour. In exchange, you get interesting recipes sent in by other members. News about food, home-making ideas and Club projects will be mailed to you regularly. Also when you join, you get a beautiful copy of your Club's Homemaker's Creed suitable for framing.

3. First Club project is Cake Recipes. All cake recipes sent in during September and October will be reviewed by the club recipe committee immediately. Those cake recipes of outstanding interest will be published and sent to all Club members. Each published recipe will give credit to the member who sent it in. It will tell who she is, where she lives and give other news about her.

Different club recipes to be exchanged in different months

You may send in any interesting recipe at any time. But since there are so many different kinds of bakings, the club recipe committee thought it wise to feature one type of recipe at a time. In other words, cake recipes will be exchanged one month, pie and cookie recipes another month, etc. We call it our bi-monthly Club project.

Here is the schedule. Your recipe will come up for review and exchange during the months shown at right.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER: Cakes of all kinds. Layer, loaf, dark or light.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER: Pies and cookies. New fillings! Clever toppings. New tricks with old favorites.

JANUARY-FEBRUARY: Casseroles, Breads, Crusts, dumplings, toppings for casseroles. Fruit and nut breads, muffins, rolls, yeast breads.

MARCH-APRIL: Baked Desserts. Interesting fruit cobblers, shortcakes, puddings and tortes.

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Join Now! Use this application blank

Write recipe plainly on sheet of paper and enclose with application blank

Mail to: Recipe Exchange Club
Oakland 6, California

I would like to join Martha Meade's Recipe Exchange Club.

Enclosed is my most cherished recipe for

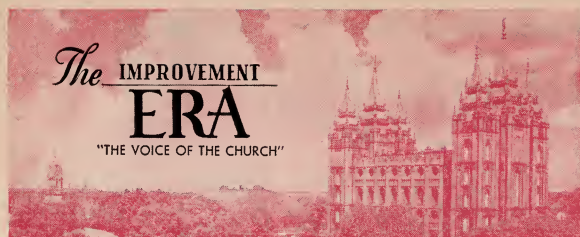
(KIND OF RECIPE)

I have also enclosed the word "Sperry" cut from a sack of Drifted Snow Flour. You have my permission to reproduce my recipe, send it to all Club members, and use my name.

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____



The IMPROVEMENT ERA

"THE VOICE OF THE CHURCH"

VOLUME 56

NUMBER 9

September 1953

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The Church of
Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints

The Cover

A full-color reproduction of the latest portrait of President David O. McKay was taken by Walter Lillian Studios especially for THE IMPROVEMENT ERA and appears on this month's cover.

EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS OFFICES

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Salt Lake City 1, Utah

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THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

1873

1953



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PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

upon reaching the notable milestone of 80 years — marking
a long lifetime of leadership and service to his fellowmen.

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From the Auxiliaries of the Church

Dear President McKay,

ON THE happy occasion of your eightieth birthday, allow us to express to you in writing some of those thoughts of appreciation for you which are in our hearts, with the heartfelt wish that the blessings of the Lord will continue to be poured out upon you in increasing plenitude in the years ahead.

We acknowledge you as the prophet, seer, and revelator of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The members of the auxiliary organizations throughout the world testify of their knowledge that you are indeed a true prophet chosen of the Lord to lead his people to exaltation in his kingdom, at a time in the world when men's hearts are failing them.

You are an example to the Church in having served the Lord faithfully and with distinction wherever you have been called to serve. When the call came to you as a young man to relinquish personal ambitions and consecrate yourself to the service of the Master, you did so unhesitatingly and unflinching.

You are an example to the Church of a true gentleman, embodying within yourself the Christian virtues. You are exemplary in the deep concern you manifest for your friends and the welfare of others.

You are an example to the Church in your family relations. Blessed with the love and devotion of your lovely, sweetheart-wife, you have reared exemplary children who honor and cherish their parents and reverence their God.

You are an example to the Church in seeking knowledge out of the best books and sharing that knowledge with others, and in enriching your home life with culture, beauty, and refinement.

You are an example to the Church in seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, proving the promise that all things will be added thereto.

May we follow your example, heed your admonitions, obey your behests, and thus express our respect and admiration for you and ever sustain you as our beloved prophet-leader.

The General Presidency of the Relief Society

The General Superintendency of the Deseret Sunday School Union

The General Superintendency of the Y.M.M.I.A.

The General Presidency of the Y.W.M.I.A.

The General Presidency of the Primary Association

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A colorful array of Christmas greetings! 24 cute cards with heartwarming religious designs by famous illustrators, Eve Rockwell. Really dainty and glowing with sentiment. Box sells for \$1.25.

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Think of it! . . . there are \$\$\$ and \$\$\$ of CASH PROFIT waiting for you in these wonderful boxes of beautiful Chilton Greeting Cards. It's a GUARANTEED profit, too . . . you *must* make money just by showing these cards to friends and neighbors, or you may return the cards.

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Your own good sense will tell you these must be literally *handsets* of folks right in your neighborhood who'll thank you for introducing them to these cards. That's why we want to send you these three introductory boxes now . . . to prove what a warm, friendly, human experience it is to show Chilton cards!

You'll earn \$10, \$20, \$30 and more, quickly and easily. You need no experience; as a new member of the "Chilton Family" you get our money-making guides which explain everything.

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To get you started, we make this amazing offer of all 3 boxes of famous Chilton Greeting Cards for just \$1.00 — an offer that may never be made again! Send no money, pay nothing when your sample boxes arrive. Just examine these cards and show them to your friends and neighbors. Unless they bring you immediate orders for many more boxes as an active Chilton Dealer, just return the cards and owe nothing. Or, if you prefer, keep them for your own use at the wholesale price. You don't risk a penny! But this offer is limited so mail the coupon today!

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—M. H. B., Westboro, Mass.



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—M. D. A., Flushing, N. Y.



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—Mrs. J. K. C., Washington, D.C.



"I found selling Chilton cards the best way I know to perform a friendly service and to be a good 'miser'. You build up good will and at the same time make a good profit on your time."

—M. L. T., N. Augusta, S. C.

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THE CHURCH MOVES ON

A Day To Day Chronology Of Church Events

June 1953

17 ELDER Alma Sonne, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, dedicated the chapel of the North Logan Ward, East Cache (Utah) Stake.

21 PRESIDENT David O. McKay dedicated the chapel of the South Bountiful Ward, South Davis (Utah) Stake. The rebuilt chapel had recently been destroyed by fire.

Elder George Q. Morris, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, dedicated the chapel of the Kaneshville Ward, Lake View (Utah) Stake.

North Pocatello Stake organized from portions of the Pocatello (Idaho) Stake, with Elder Jared Oliver Anderson sustained as stake president. President Anderson was formerly first counselor in the Pocatello Stake. Elders Alton M. Alexander and Homer Stuart Satterfield sustained as his counselors. The stake is made up of the Fort Hall and the Pocatello Seventh, Eighth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, and Seventeenth wards. Elder William R. Cahoon sustained as president of the Pocatello Stake, with Elders Marion Lee Coleman and Cecil Harper as counselors. Remaining in the Pocatello Stake are the Inkom and the Pocatello Second, Fourth, Sixth, Twelfth, and Fourteenth wards. President William P. Whitaker and his counselors, Elders Jared O. Anderson and Leo H. Edgley were released from the presidency of the Pocatello Stake. Elders Spencer W. Kimball and LeGrand Richards of the Council of the Twelve were in charge of these changes. North Pocatello is the 207th stake now functioning in the Church.

26 DR. HAROLD W. LEE, a member of the faculty of Brigham Young University, was set apart as president of the French Mission, succeeding President Golden L. Woolf. President Lee filled a mission to France, Belgium, and Switzerland in 1930-33. He was called as bishop of the Provo Ninth Ward last March. Prior to that he had been a member of the East Provo Stake high council for five and a half years. Sister Lee and their four sons will accompany him on this mission to France.

27 THIS week-end marked the end of stake conferences until the week-end of August 15-16.

28 ELDER Delbert L. Stapley of the Council of the Twelve dedicated the chapel of the Valley Center First and Second wards, Mill Creek (Salt Lake County) Stake. The structure also serves as a stake house.

President Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of the Seventy dedicated the chapel of the Grove Ward, Timpanogos (Utah) Stake. The building also is the stake house.

Butte (Montana) Stake was created from portions of the West Central States Mission, with Elder Edgar T. Henderson sustained as president, and Elders Harold H. Pitts and Russell C. Taylor as counselors. Wards were created in Anaconda, Butte, Dillon, Bozeman, and Helena. Branches of the stake were organized at Belgrade, Deer Lodge, Lima, Sheridan, Three Forks, Townsend, and Whitehall. There are approximately thirty-five hundred members of the Church in this, the 208th stake of the Church. Elders Spencer W. Kimball and LeGrand Richards were in charge of organizing this stake.

July 1953

7 THE First Presidency set apart Elders Joseph O. Stradling and Henry L. Smith as counselors to President Arwell L. Pierce of the Arizona Temple.

President Delbert G. Taylor of the Eastern States Mission, representing the Church, was interviewed by Dr. Lyman Bryson on the initial series featuring religion on the "You and the World" program of the Columbia Broadcasting System radio network.

9 THE First Presidency announced the unification of all educational institutions of the Church under a single administrator. Dr. Ernest L. Wilkinson, president of Brigham Young University, will be the administrator. Included in the new unification program are eight Church schools, in Utah, Idaho, Mexico, and the South Seas, fifteen institutes of religion, and 192 junior and senior seminaries throughout the Church. The new change is made effective upon the retirement of Dr. Franklin L. West, who has been Church commissioner of education since 1935. Under the new plan, Dr. Wilkinson will assume general administration

under the direction of the First Presidency and the Council of the Twelve, and will work through an executive committee consisting of President Joseph Fielding Smith of the Council of the Twelve and Elders Harold B. Lee, Henry D. Moyle, Marion G. Romney, and Adam S. Bennion. Dr. Wilkinson's offices will remain on the campus at Provo, Utah. He has selected Elder William E. Berrett to be vice president in charge of religious education; Elder William F. Edwards to be vice president in charge of finance and business administration; and Elder Harvey L. Taylor as executive assistant. The Church schools included in the unification program are Brigham Young University, Ricks College, at Rexburg, Idaho; L.D.S. Business College and the McCune School of Music and Art, Salt Lake City, both of which have been branches of Brigham Young University for some time; the Juarez Stake Academy in Colonia Dublin, Mexico; and mission schools in the Tongan Islands, British Samoa, and New Zealand. About fifteen thousand full-time students attend institutions of learning.

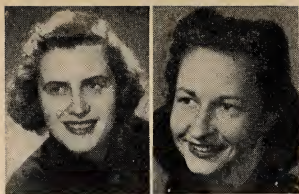
10 THE First Presidency sent a letter to stake presidents and ward bishops that draft laws had been modified so that one young man in each ward and independent branch of the organized stakes is to be selected for serving a mission. Upon clearances of local draft board officials, that young man will be called on his mission. Of course such elders will be subject to draft regulations upon completion of their missions.

11 TOTAL membership in the Relief Societies of the Church at the end of 1952 was 140,354, it was announced. This represented a gain of 7903 members in the calendar year. Of the total, 112,188 members reside in the stakes, and 28,166 are members of mission Relief Societies.

12 WITH this broadcast, the 1248th, the Salt Lake Tabernacle choir and organ completed twenty-four years of broadcasting on radio networks. The weekly program was first heard on July 15, 1929.

15 ELDER Albert E. Bowen of the Council of the Twelve passed away. He was 77 years of age.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



Moana B. Bennett

Joyce Roberts

Appointees to the Y.W.M.I.A. General Board

TWO NEW members of the general board of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association—Mrs. Moana Ballif Bennett and Joyce Roberts—have been announced by General President Bertha S. Reeder.

At the time of her appointment, Mrs. Bennett had been serving as a member of the South Davis (Utah) Stake Y.W.M.I.A. board. Other Church assignments of Mrs. Bennett include being secretary and also a teacher of the Provo Ninth Ward Sunday School, East Provo (Utah) Stake; drama director in the South Eighteenth Ward, Ensign (Salt Lake City) Stake; drama director in the North Twentieth Ward of the same stake; and Junior Gleaner leader in the North Twenty-first Ward, Emigration (Salt Lake City) Stake.

Mrs. Bennett was graduated from Brigham Young University in 1949. She is the daughter of President and Mrs. Ariel S. Ballif of the East Provo Stake. She is the wife of John H. Bennett.

She has been assigned to the drama committee of the general board.

Miss Roberts, now a member of the West Twelfth Ward, University (Salt Lake City) Stake, has recently moved from Santa Barbara, California. While in Santa Barbara Ward, she was instructor of the Gospel Message class in Sunday School and a counselor in the presidency of the Y.W.M.I.A.

She has filled a mission in Mexico. She was graduated from the University of California, at Berkeley, in 1946, and has since done graduate work at Brigham Young University.

She was born at Inglewood, California, the daughter of Elder and Mrs. Rex M. Roberts.

Miss Roberts has been assigned to serve on the sports committee.

SEPTEMBER 1953

NOW



THE BOOK ALL THE
CHURCH HAS BEEN
WAITING FOR - - -

Gospel Ideals—

SELECTIONS FROM THE
DISCOURSES OF

David O. McKay

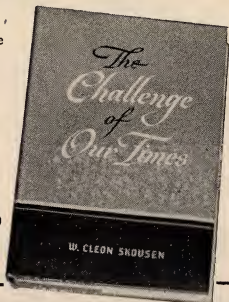
The release of this timely, worthwhile volume presents for the first time in book form the teachings of President McKay — a man whose kindness and understanding has brought happiness and knowledge to thousands. Between the covers of this remarkable book are about 600 pages packed with comfort, courage and inspiration for every reader. It's a volume which will serve as a "living light" for the betterment of men and women in community life and world society. You'll find these inspired messages a guide toward joy and peace on earth.

\$4.00

ANOTHER BOOK BY CLEON SKOUSEN, AUTHOR OF "PROPHECY AND MODERN TIMES"

This new exciting book contains those vital and fundamental truths of Skousen's Sunday evening Tabernacle broadcasts. It is a compilation of answers to questions which plague the minds of modern men. They are answers that the author found reliable and heartwarming in the struggle of daily living. Beneficial . . . enlightening . . . a "must" volume for your library.

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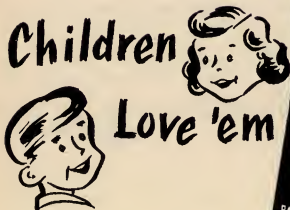
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Luscious Plump and Meaty raisins come to you as fresh as the day they were packed—twice-sealed in Flavo-tite cartons or bags. They stay fresh and hold their natural goodness and taste. Try them today!

GO FORWARD*

by Elbert R. Curtis

PRESIDENT Schiff, Dr. Schuck, distinguished guests, Scouts, Scouters, and friends of scouting:

It is a privilege and a distinct honor to represent the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at this important time and on this glorious and thrilling occasion.

We love boys and have faith in the youth of America.

This year the Mormon people are celebrating the anniversary of forty years of happy experience in scouting.

It was in June 1913 that we received our first charter which, we are informed, was the first charter ever issued to a religious body by the national council.

Scouting is a most important part of our youth program, and eighty-five percent of our boys of scouting ages are registered as Scouts and Explorers. Tens of thousands of our boys—and boys who are now men—have enjoyed the blessings of this inspired program, and benefited therefrom. Through it they have been kept clean—have been made more conscious of the necessity of keeping themselves physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

We find that the ideals of this great program are in complete harmony with our Church purposes and doctrines, that the development of our boys into strong individuals is similar to the Church concepts that the duty to God and the service to others are completely acceptable as Church teachings.

The forebears of these young Mormons present at this glorious jamboree walked many dreary miles across a barren desert that they might worship their God without hindrance and according to the dictates of their conscience.

These Mormon Scouts have been taught that the Constitution of these United States was inspired of God. There has been implanted in their hearts a love for this land—for its flag, its freedoms and liberties. The God of heaven has jealously guarded and preserved this land—its freedoms and its liberties. The Almighty has declared that this is a choice land,
(Concluded on page 691)

*Talk delivered at the convocation, Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree, held Sunday evening, July 19, at Irvine Ranch, California.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

BY
A
WATERFALL



—Photograph by H. Armstrong Roberts

EXPLORING one time in a valley small
I happened by chance on a waterfall,
Spraying like rain over rock ledges cool,
Splashing on down to a transparent pool.

Reflected there was the blue of the sky
That curved to the crest of the ridge nearby;
The boulders and trees on the mountainside
And flowers on the bank with mouths opened wide.

Half-hidden there, too, in a shady glade
Was a spotted fawn not at all afraid.
And out in the pool in majestic grace
Swam a snow-white swan from her nesting place.

There mid the surge of a breeze through the trees,
The song of a lark, and humming of bees,
I thanked God above for that valley small
And the peaceful sound of that waterfall.

by Rulon Armstrong Jones



A TEACHER RETURNS

By Pauline Chadwell

SHE has come back—the way the tide returns
To its familiar shore. Across the space
Of time, the yearning spirit learns
That something of itself has left its trace
Within these walls—this room, unchanged
by years.
No voice can say the thought within her
heart
That listens to the cloistered past—and
hears
Young laughter, wisdom, or a song's swift
start.

While children now recall a shining part
Of memory, the living thought remains
Unspoken, reaching out from heart to
heart,
The way devotion to a cause ordains:
She has kept faith with old ideals whose
bright
Eternal strength still gives the world its
light.

OLD HIGH SCHOOL

By Alma Robison Higbee

TEN years or more this place has stood
alone
With star-grass tangle nibbling at the door;
Time has set its mark on beam and stone;
And dust lies velvet soft upon the oaken
floor
Where velvet-footed mice steal out and in.
The windows are dim old eyes that seem
to peer
Where gold-backed spiders swing and spin
And bind the days in bundles, year on year.
Once within these halls was knowledge
wrought
And wisdom laced with laughter. Here
youth came
To store these treasures in the vaults of
thought,
And here excitement kindled its glowing
flame.
Today the schoolhouse stands, a monu-
ment
(Though like a nest, forsaken and forlorn)
To bright-eyed youth, the ones who came
and went,
For here a thousand songs and dreams
were born.

A WISP OF TIME

By Mary Gustafson

He who gives pleasure
Has joy in return;
Happy the one
Who has power to discern
The need of a smile,
A letter or such.
The cost may be little
And yet mean so much!

Bluebirds will drift
The hours of the day,
For happiness grows
As you give it away!

THIS IS GOD

By Henry Kekoanui

I SEARCHED for God the other day
And wandered far and wide;
I touched each vine along the way,
Through vale, up mountainside,
And when I saw the sheltered green
Of dewey, grassy springs,
I said, "Why, surely this is God
Among these growing things."

I traveled on, and suddenly
From out the clear blue sky
I heard the beat of mighty wings—
A host of birds flew by.
I watched them till their lonely call
Echoed soft away and dim,
And then my heart spoke low to me,
"I know that I've seen Him."

On and on I went that day
Till shadows stayed the light,
And a vast number of stars,
All timidly,
Stole forth into the night;
And as I watched, with searching eyes
Unto the heavens' glow,
There came to me the silent words,
"Yes, this is God, I know."

Home, home at last, still sad at heart,
I finally made my way,
For how could I be sure
How much I had seen of God that day?
And as I bent my tired head,
A gentle breeze caressed me;
I thought and heard my voice again,
"Surely now he's blessed me."

WILDWOOD TREASURE

By Grace Shull Eichmann

OBEYING the call of wildwood trails
Stored rapturous beauty for my today
As from my storeroom Spirit unveils
A forest cathedral near rugged height,
A golden sunset past rolling sea.
A flowery meadow creates delight.
Memorial matins and vespers of birds
Companion notes of brooklet and breeze—
Symphonic arias without words.

ONLY THE HEART

By Anobel Armour

How can the slow mind understand
Infinite beauty such as is
Offered each day to eye and hand
In a world which is so surely His?

How can the slow mind ever know
Wonder greater than finches' wings,
Threading paths where red roses blow,
Epitome of all lovely things?

Only the trusting heart can be,
With never a need to question why,
At one with grass blades or a tree,
At one with bird songs down the sky.

The mind is numbed by earth's wide won-
der;
The heart accepts and turns doubt under!

BEFORE SEPTEMBER CAME

By Leone E. McCune

BEFORE September came it seemed
That summer gave us beauty unsur-
passed:
June roses, lilies, scintillating lakes
Of gentian blue, and mountain tops en-
masse
With trembling aspen, pine, and juniper.
But here beneath these fruited orchard
boughs
Of tart red apples, luscious peaches, pears,
Blue damson plums, and vines of purple
grapes
And just beyond, bright paisley-hooded hills
And gardens colorful as Carmen's dress,
The season gives the ultimate in eye
Appeal—and whets the lagging appetite.
Beside this flaming beauty, summer fades
Into a paler splendor. Or, can it be
That each new season has a charm far
greater than the last?

FESTIVAL

By Mary Lucretia Barker

This is a time of blue-grape hills
With zestful air that gaily spills
From morning's glow of brilliant rose
To color the landscape where it flows.

There are rich jewels in the leaves—
Topaz and rubies. Glossy sheaves
Highlight the fields that gladly hold
These shining piles of hoarded gold.

The flowers are garnet, amethyst,
Carnelian, keeping a gallant tryst
With autumn and her genial rays
That dance through long and sun-warmed
days.

LEGACY

Ethel Hope Hodson

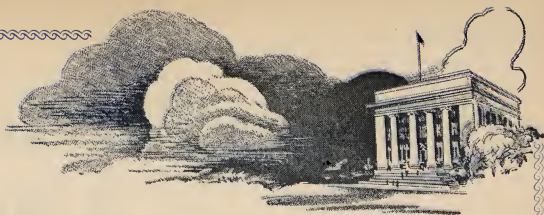
This is the legacy left us by summer.
Left for the days when the winter is
chill,
Stored in the memory to linger forever,
To be recalled any time and at will:

Red roses blooming in greatest profusion;
Old-fashioned pinks with their sharp, spicy
smell;
Gayest petunias, bright phlox, and daisies,
Weaving with color their magical spell:

Days when the sky in its arch of deep
sapphire
Held, like a jewel, the great, sparkling sun;
Nights when the stars and the moon in
their brilliance
Seemed of bright platinum fashioned and
spun;

Gone—all are gone now since summer de-
parted,
Unseen and silently when night was still;
But, in the legacy left us by summer,
All of its loveliness comes back at will.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



Gospel Ideals*

by President David O. McKay

HAS somebody offended you in the Church? You may hold resentment if you wish, say nothing to him, and let resentment canker your soul. If you do, you will be the one who is injured, not the one who you think has injured you. You will feel better and be far happier to follow the divine injunction: If you have aught against your brother, go to him. (See Matt. 5:23-24.)

* * * * *

Too many men are claiming that the world owes them a living and are sitting effortlessly by, expecting the world to throw its luxuries into their passive laps. Too late they will learn that the earth rewards richly only the strenuous strugglers.

* * * * *

There is no salvation without work.

* * * * *

Teachers, begin the preparation of your lessons in prayer. Teach your lessons with a prayerful heart . . . Then pray that God will enrich your message in the souls of your children through the influence of his holy Spirit.

* * * * *

It is the Spirit which teaches the spirit. What you are is what will influence your children—not what you say. The Spirit of the Lord is what is going to reach those teachers and teach your children—

* * * * *

You cannot awaken in the hearts of children a nobility which is not yours.

* * * * *

The ordinance of baptism is a law of God, obedience to which, in sincerity, in purity, in sim-

*Excerpts from the book *Gospel Ideals* by President David O. McKay.

plicity, brings inevitably the promised blessings of the Comforter, a divine Guide, whom they can never know, who “change the ordinance and transgress the law.” Though men may scoff at it, ridicule it, and doubt its efficacy, baptism remains ever, even in its simplicity, not only one of the most beautiful symbols known, but also one of the most effective laws operating for the salvation of mankind.

* * * * *

To members of the Church of Jesus Christ, therefore, tithing is as much a law of God as is baptism. No one is compelled to obey the one any more than the other; and no one receives the blessing of either without obedience thereto. They who reject the law of tithing put themselves in the same class as the “Pharisees and lawyers” who in the days of John the Baptist, “rejected the counsel of God against themselves.”

* * * * *

Do not think that there is not a spiritual significance in the little principle of fasting. Do not think, parents, that you are favoring your child when, out of compassion, you say, “Oh, give him his breakfast; . . . the little boy is too young to go without his meal,” and so on. You do not know what you are doing by such teaching as that. I want to tell you that the children of our Church can be so taught this principle of self-denial that they will set worthy examples to their parents in the observance of it.

* * * * *

There is no one great thing which we can do to obtain eternal life, and it seems to me that the great lesson to be learned in the world today is to apply in the little acts and duties of life the glorious principles of the gospel.

The Editor's Page

A Book, A Man, and A Message

by Richard L. Evans



It is nearly half a century since President David O. McKay first became a member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles at the age of thirty-two.

Forty-seven years is long in any life — especially in a life so fully filled with official duty, and so richly filled with personal living, with graciousness — and greatness. In that long official life (and before) there has been a constancy of conviction, a constancy of high motives that have moved him, and a constancy of hopeful, encouraging outlook on life. And always in evidence has been his unusual ability as a teacher of truth.

On the eightieth anniversary of his birth, THE IMPROVEMENT ERA is honored in the privilege of publishing a book—*Gospel Ideals*—selected from his writings and sermons of nearly half a century.

In the book there is a great breadth of solid, satisfying counsel, of insight and understanding, of undeviating principle coupled with honest inquiry, of hope and promise, of love and guidance for living.

In it also is the evidence of an organized approach to principles and problems, with the significant points sharply set forth and defined so that the reader feels as he pursues these pages that the author of them has sensed the responsibility of each utterance and has given careful, considered judgment to the weight of his words.

All this is true whether the sermon was spoken in 1906, '26, or '46—or since 1951 when the heavier responsibility of the Presidency of the Church was placed upon him.

This work was proposed and planned by Dr. John A. Widsøe of

the Council of the Twelve. He took an earnest interest in it before his death, and the completion of it was close to his heart. The able selecting and organizing by Dr. G. Homer Durham, and the further selecting, editing, and designing of THE IMPROVEMENT ERA staff have all contributed to the producing and publishing of a significant and artistic and inspiring volume.

But the real substance was provided by the President himself, in words that he has written and spoken during nearly five decades. For the stake president, the bishop, the priesthood bearer, for the officer and teacher, there is counsel from a long-seasoned Church administrator and lifelong teacher. For young people facing the urgent problems and decisions of life, there are wise and steadying words from an understanding friend. For parents, there is guidance from one who has looked long and well at the problems of parents. For all, there is food for the mind, for the heart, for the spirit.

One cannot read these pages without sensing that President McKay has had a long and providential preparation for the high office he holds. The constancy of his counsel and the conviction of his testimony of truth will give guidance and comfort, encouragement and conviction for this, his own day, and far into the future.

With all the Church, with his family, and with unnumbered hosts of friends not of his faith, we join in wishing him health and happiness, and long extended usefulness in noble service. May his life be blessed and his days be sweet, this day—and always.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



President
Joseph Fielding Smith

Your Question

by
Joseph Fielding Smith

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

THE LEAST IN THE KINGDOM

Question:

"I am writing in behalf of the ward Relief Society. In one of our lessons, page 859, an item appears that no one in the class was able to explain. We have asked several of our priesthood members, but they are unable to give us the explanation. If it is not too much trouble, we would appreciate it if you would give us the answer. It is said of John that among all that were born of women there was none greater than he, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven was greater than he. We do not understand how this could be."

Answer:

THIS saying is in reference to the Savior's estimate of John as recorded in Luke 7:28, after the disciples of John had come to him and said: "John the Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?" (Luke 7:20.) Later the Savior bore testimony to the greatness of the mission of John, which testimony is recorded in Luke 7:28.

At a meeting held in the Nauvoo Temple, Sunday, January 29, 1843, the Prophet Joseph Smith gave the answer to this question. He had been asked to do so at a meeting the week before, when time would not permit of an answer. We quote the full report of the Prophet's remarks:

"The question arose from the saying of Jesus, 'Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.' [Luke 7:28.] How is it that John was considered one of the greatest prophets? His miracles could not have constituted his greatness.

"First. He was entrusted with a divine mission of preparing the way before the face of the Lord. Whoever had such a trust committed to him before or since? No man.

"Secondly. He was entrusted with the important mission, and it was required at his hands,

to baptize the Son of Man. Whoever had the honor of doing that? Whoever had so great a privilege and glory? Whoever led the Son of God into the waters of baptism, and had the privilege of beholding the Holy Ghost descend in the form of a dove, or rather in the sign of the dove, in witness of that administration? The sign of the dove was instituted before the creation of the world, a witness for the Holy Ghost, and the devil cannot come in the sign of a dove. The Holy Ghost is a personage, and is in the form of a personage. It does not confine itself to the form of the dove, but in sign of the dove. The Holy Ghost cannot be transformed into a dove; but the sign of a dove was given to John to signify the truth of the deed, as the dove is an emblem or token of truth and innocence.

"Thirdly. John, at that time, was the only legal administrator in the affairs of the kingdom there was then on the earth, and holding the keys of power. The Jews had to obey his instructions or be damned, by their own law; and Christ himself fulfilled all righteousness in becoming obedient to the law which he had given to Moses on the mount, and thereby magnified it and made it honorable instead of destroying it. The son of Zacharias wrested the keys, the kingdom, the power, the glory from the Jews, by the holy anointing and decree of heaven, and these three reasons constitute him the greatest prophet born of a woman.

"Second question:—How was the least in the kingdom of heaven greater than he?

"In reply I asked—Whom did Jesus have reference to as being the least? Jesus was looked upon as having the least claim in God's kingdom, and [seemingly] was least entitled to their credulity as a prophet: as though he had said—'He that is considered the least among you is greater than John—that is I myself!' " (DHC 5:260-261.) (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 275-276.)

ON THE EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY OF OUR PRESIDENT

by President Stephen L Richards

WE LOOK upon birthdays as measurements of longevity. They tell us whether a man is old or young or middle-aged, and strangely enough, every appraisal is based largely on the age of the appraiser.

I do not regard President McKay as being old at eighty. Perhaps, by reason of long association, the aging process has been imperceptible, but I find it difficult to discern any appreciable diminution in the eagerness for life, the buoyancy, the ambition, the vitality, the energy, and the radiance of personality that characterized the man I came to know, in the providence of the Lord, fifty years ago.

How grateful we of the Church are that this is so, that at the period of his long, eventful life when his greatest opportunities and responsibilities have come, he is blessed with health, strength, and energy to meet them.

Birthdays, however, may be more than mere indications of age. They should be milestones on the highway of progress in man's ascent to his eternal destiny. As year after year he reaches higher elevations, he may look back and forward with increased perspective, satisfaction, and vision.

We who love our President can think of no more appropriate greeting for his birthday than to ask him to pause for a moment on the eminence of eighty and enjoy some of the soul satisfactions that flow from the decades of Christlike service he has rendered in his long ministry. We ask him in retrospect to recall the volume of holy ordinances he has administered by virtue of the priesthood he holds for the eternal benefit of our Father's children; the encouragement he has given to men and women called to positions of responsibility in the kingdom to learn and perform their duties; the stakes and wards and other establishments of the Church he has created and

set in order; the temples in the construction and dedication of which he has prominently participated; the sealing ceremonies he has performed and the thousands of young people he has set on the way for marital happiness and eternal glory; his remarkable missionary labors, literally carrying the restored gospel to and establishing missions for peoples all over the world, and ever maintaining and increasing the efficiency of the missionary system; his incomparable teaching of youth with unforgettable lessons on truth, honor, and virtue; his support for the auxiliary organizations and his invaluable definition of their functions and fields of endeavor; the immeasurable comfort he has brought to the bereaved (could their gratitude find collective expression it would fill volumes); his admirable representation of the Church in governmental and other distinguished circles, making friends for the cause of the Redeemer wherever he has gone.

So we ask our President to accept as a birthday remembrance the gifts which, through the help of the Lord, he has created for himself—his own record of matchless achievement, here so briefly and imperfectly set down. We ask him also to accept that which he has likewise won for himself—the respect, love, and devotion of his people. We know that he desires that the love we bear him be manifest in consecration to the great cause to which he has so perfectly given his fourscore years. We give assurance it will be so.

Thus we tender to President David O. McKay, the chosen of the Lord, our friend, so approachable, so sympathetic, so understanding, so self-denying for others, affectionate birthday greetings, and our prayers and best wishes for the years ahead to be filled with glorious achievement in the consummation of the Lord's purposes, with a full measure of health, happiness, and satisfaction to him we love, our President.

Stephen L Richards

OUR TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT MCKAY

by President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.

AS ONE of the General Authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for nearly half a century, President David Oman McKay has devoted his time, energy, and talents to the service of the Lord in building up his kingdom here on earth. He was made an Apostle in 1906; a member of the First Presidency in 1934; and became President of the Church in April 1951, following the regular order of succession that obtains in that matter.

Educated and trained as a teacher, experienced as a successful administrator of Weber College (then the Weber Stake Academy), over which he presided with great credit and distinguished ability, it was natural that his early special assignment in Church service called him into the work of the auxiliaries.

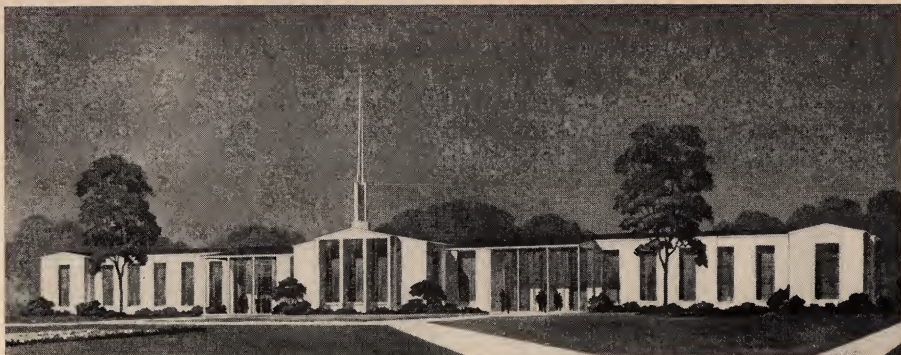
His initial work as counselor in the superintendency of the Deseret Sunday School Union under President Joseph F. Smith as superintendent, and later his service as superintendent, gave him opportunity for the further exercise of his outstanding abilities as a teacher and inspirer of youth. Recognizing his superior talents in the field of education, President Heber J. Grant made him Commissioner of Education for the Church. He had again moved into his chosen field of activity, which he loved and still loves. He is a great teacher. Under his able and energetic direction the Church school system began a march forward that has continued to this time.

His success and experience in this field, plus a successful missionary experience in his earlier life in Great Britain, led to his appointment as President of the European Mission of the Church—a position which he held for two years, and to which he brought a devotion to duty, a contagious enthusiasm, and an unflinching faith in the restored gospel, that led to outstanding achievement. This service was preceded by a tour of the Church missions in all parts of the world, a more extensive tour than any theretofore or since undertaken by any General Authority. The experiences of that tour, particularly in the islands of the Pacific, are still held in reverent memory by all the Saints who were privileged to participate in the rich outpourings of the Spirit that accompanied his ministrations to the people.

He has a personality of unusual charm. He loves the people; he is grateful for the love he welcomes in return. He loves to mingle among them and visit with them. They find him kind, courteous, considerate, interested in them and in their welfare. He brings to his work great enthusiasm and energy. He is a great preacher, and the inspiration gathered from his words has led thousands of our members, in the wards and stakes and missions, to better lives and greater devotion to the building up of the cause of truth in the earth. His great aim is to build up the kingdom, to spread and increase its influence, so that righteousness may rule the world.

The people unite in a prayer that God will continue to bless him abundantly.





—Courtesy Church Building Committee

Typical of the recent trend in Church buildings is the new Murray stake and four-ward meetinghouse, an architects drawing of which is reproduced above. This building, when completed, will contain two chapels, two complete sets of classrooms, offices for four bishops, stake offices, and a large recreation hall which can be divided into two separate areas.

THE CHURCH GROWS

by Doyle L. Green

MANAGING EDITOR

DAVID O. MCKAY was sustained President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 9, 1951. On his eightieth birthday, September 8, 1953, he will have presided in this position for two years and five months. It has been a short time, relatively, but it has been a period of progress for the Church, a period of growth and consolidation. To review even part of the major happenings and to follow President McKay's activities during these twenty-nine months, is to marvel at the way the Lord has prospered the Church during this period.

Activities of the Church are sometimes broken down into three phases: (1) caring for the welfare of the body of the Church, (2) teaching the gospel to the world, and (3) doing work for the dead. Certainly none of these important activities is being neglected under the present administration.

Take the first phase, caring for the welfare of the body of the Church: The building of chapels which was held up during World War II is going forward at an accelerated pace. During 1951, 104 chapels were completed and dedicated. In 1952, 128 dedications were held. Already in 1953, eighty-six chapels have been completed and dedicated, and it is re-

ported that 385 church buildings are under construction. This does not include construction in Europe and the islands, except Hawaii. The records show that as many as five or six chapels are often dedicated within a period of one week.

During President McKay's administration, also, the Church's educational system has been revamped so that a maximum number of young people can be reached with the strongest possible program. Early indications of this far-reaching move were the making of the Latter-day Saint Business College and the McCune School of Music and Art in Salt Lake City, branches of Brigham Young University. Then came the announcement that all the educational institutions, the schools, seminaries, and institutes, had been unified and placed under the head of a single administrator, Dr. Ernest Wilkinson, president of Brigham Young University. Other indications of the emphasis being placed on education are: (1) the recent announcement of a ten-million dollar expansion program at B.Y.U. (During the past two years the enrolment at this university has increased forty-two percent); (2) beginning of construction on two new institute buildings—one for students attending the Uni-

versity of Alberta at Edmonton, and the other for students in southern California, situated a block from the University of Southern California; (3) the granting of full, unrestricted accreditation as a four-year school to Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho.

The seminary program is continually being expanded: for example, in the southern California area alone this fall sixty classes will be held each morning. During the 1952-53 year, 36,074 young people were reached with the seminary and institute program.

Additional physical indications of the progress being made are the following: (1) a two-million dollar expansion program at the Dr. W. H. Groves L.D.S. Hospital in Salt Lake City (this includes a seven-story addition); (2) the completion by the Primary Association of the Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City; (3) the obtaining of the 115-bed Utah Valley Hospital at Provo; (4) the approval of a new building to house the Relief Society organization to be built north of the Young Building, across the street from Temple Square in Salt Lake City; (5) the purchase by the Church of Utah Woolen Mills blanket factory in Murray for use in the welfare program.

This great building program expanding the physical facilities of the Church was necessitated by the growth in Church membership. When President McKay took office there were 184 stakes in the Church. Today, after twenty-nine months, there are 208 stakes. At the close of

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1950 the membership of the Church was listed as 1,111,314. At the close of 1952 it had grown to 1,189,053.

A move which may eventually affect all of our boys from eight to ten years of age is the recent adoption of the Cub Scout program of the Boy Scouts of America. This program has been assigned to the Primary Association and will supplement the present week-day activities for boys of these ages. In connection with this, the eleven-year-old Scout program which has heretofore been carried on by the Y.M.M.I.A. has been placed in the hands of the Primary. Two other moves which should greatly strengthen the Boy Scout program are the creation of a Scout relationships committee, headed by President McKay, and the appointment by the national council of D. L. Roberts as full-time director of Mormon relationships.

Important and far-reaching changes have been made in the mission activities of the Church. Soon after the close of World War II, missionary work gained momentum, and soon an all-time high was reached in the number of foreign missionaries in the field. Then came the outbreak of hostilities in Korea and an increase in the draft quotas. As a result of this, returning missionaries could not be replaced with other young men.

To compensate for this loss of manpower the following things were done: (1) more mature missionaries were called to go into the field; (2) greater emphasis was placed upon stake missions; (3) more full-time missionaries were called from the field to labor in their own vicinities; and (4) more emphasis was placed upon quality missionary work.

On July 20, 1951 a letter was sent from the First Presidency requesting that each of the 345 quorums of seventy make available at least three members to receive calls to the mission field. A uniform plan for teaching the gospel was also worked out and put into effect in both stake and foreign missions. Amazing results have been reported from the use of these new methods and techniques. In 1951, 3836 persons were baptized into the Church in the stake missions and 5356 inactive members were brought back into activity—all of this through the efforts of the local missionaries! Last year nearly 12,000 converts were baptized in foreign missions alone.

Myriads of people continue to flock to Temple Square. In 1951, 1,900,269 people visited the square.

Proselyting was recently begun among the Chinese of the San Francisco Bay area. The Japanese Mission was also expanded to include the

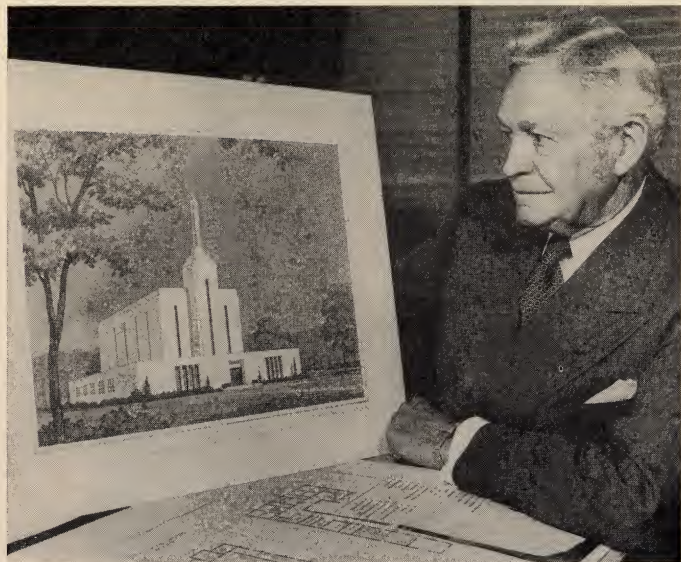
Philippines, Guam, and Okinawa. Missionary work was also extended in Central America, and the Central American Mission with headquarters at Guatemala City, was dedicated for the preaching of the gospel. Further to expedite missionary work, all missionary activities have been placed under the direction of one committee headed by President Stephen L. Richards. Prior to this change the stake missions were under the direction of the First Council of the Seventy.

Genealogical and temple work are receiving renewed emphasis. Construction on the great new Los Angeles Temple is moving ahead. Ground is ready to be broken for construction of the temple near Berne, Switzerland, and work is expected to start soon on a new temple to be situated near London, England.

Microfilming has gone forward until today the genealogical microfilm library in Salt Lake City contains more rolls than any other library in the world—it is even larger than that of the Library of Congress. Three and one-half million pages of American films alone were made in 1952, and in that same year Church microfilming through the world averaged nearly one hundred thousand pages for every working day. The latest

(Concluded on page 698)

President McKay inspects architect's drawing for the L. D. S. temple near Berne, Switzerland.





On holidays the McKay family gather together—sons and daughters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, babes in arms, toddlers, and adolescents—for the fun that always results in being together.



At Home with

by Marba
ASSOCIATE

ONE quality that typifies the home life of President and Sister David O. McKay is their unfailing graciousness, which follows the admonition of the Savior concerning the importance of the individual. It matters not to President McKay and his wife what the age of the person is; what matters to them is that he is a child of our eternal Father, one born into the world to work out his salvation and entitled to the respect, help, and encouragement that can be given him in this struggle upwards. And President and Mrs. McKay are there to help. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40) has been the guiding light of the McKay household. There is a thoroughgoing respect for everyone

Music is a favorite pastime in the McKay household. Sister McKay plays the piano for the President—or with her musical family.

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who has crossed the threshold of that home, just as there is for everyone whom they meet.

Their family life is an ideal one. There are traditional occasions for the McKays to celebrate as a family; birthdays are never forgotten—no matter what the stress of other pressing business; for instance, while President and Sister McKay were east to meet with the heads of the government, one of the sons had a birthday—and a telegram came from “Papa Dade” as the family affectionately call the President, wishing the son a happy day—and many more of them. Christmas is also a tradition with the family as are Decoration Day, and the Fourth of July. Other special days are celebrated whenever possible. Even when illness has made it seem advisable to cancel plans for these family days of celebration, Sister McKay has said, “As long as I can crawl, I want the family to come to the home.” And come they do—in-fants in arms, toddlers, older grandchildren, children, and wives or hus-

what the President might say. But it is not always so; their differences are such as indicate the strength of their characters. There is no arguing, but a thoroughgoing respect for each other's opinions. However, on fundamentals they act as a unit, giving security to their children and grandchildren.

Concerning “Mama Ray” and “Papa Dade” in their relationship, there is a closeness of the two that is beautiful to see. During the years while the children were little, “Mama Ray” stayed at home because she felt that she was needed with the family. Her place was with them. Now that the family are grown, the two go everywhere together. And it is well they do, for they complement each other. There has always been a thoroughgoing respect for each other. Neither has ever raised his voice. There has never been any quarreling or nagging in the family. Some annoyance may have been shown by facial or bodily expression, but the voices throughout have remained sweet, respectful.

Sister McKay, like her husband, has a sweet sense of humor. Once as she was driving through the Kaibab Forest with her husband, son, and daughter-in-law, she became somewhat apprehensive because her son was driving a bit rapidly. Finally,

in her quiet manner, she said, “Llewlyn, will be it all right if I take my eyes off the road to look for some flying squirrels?” Incidentally, she saw some!

President McKay loves Scotch stories and tells them with rare good dialect. And he even delights in telling stories on himself.

Sister McKay has always had her two feet planted firmly on the ground. She has a sense of appropriateness in dress, words, and actions that has given her a poise so great that she makes other people feel perfectly at ease with her. It is a tribute to Sister McKay that a few years ago when she was ill and had to go to the hospital, President McKay would not stay in their home. He was either in the hospital with her or in the office where work could release him from concern and loneliness. This closeness permeates the child-parent relationship as well; the McKays are a closely knit family.

With the busy life that President McKay lives there should be an equal “busy-ness” about his relaxation, and there is. The word *Huntsville* typifies the release and the opportunity to work hard at relaxation. President McKay has felt a marked closeness to the home of his youth and has given that feeling to his

(Continued on page 680)

the McKays

C. Josephson

MANAGING EDITOR

bands. At nine-thirty in the morning, they assemble, and the entire day is spent in joyful reunion.

The Christmas celebration provides the younger people with their full measure of acceptance. Instead of their sitting at small tables, it is the adults who sit at card tables, and the children are at the big dining room table—“Papa Dade” at the head, where their personal importance is stressed, to their everlasting delight.

It was the eldest grandson, incidentally, who picked up the name “Papa Dade” (Sister McKay has always called her husband “Dade”) and bestowed it on the President, a name that has persisted throughout the years. And it is “Mama Ray,” tiny but strong, who is right beside him to see that events move as they should and to give him support right down the line.

To some it might seem that Sister McKay would agree completely with



Huntsville affords the McKays the opportunity to learn the value of work.



"Entangle Not Yourselves in Sin"

by President Joseph Fielding Smith
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

EDITOR'S NOTE

This article is taken from an address by President Joseph Fielding Smith given at the June conference of the Mutual Improvement Associations in the Salt Lake Tabernacle, Friday afternoon, June 12, 1953. President Smith, in his love and concern for the youth of the Church, here comments on the current M.I.A. theme and on the obligation for the M.I.A. and others to give wholesome direction in both study and recreation for youth's development in accordance with the mind and will of the eternal Father.

I think that the Mutual Improvement organizations were very happy in their choice of a theme for the young people of the Church in adopting this one taken from the eighty-eighth section of the Doctrine and Covenants: "Abide ye in the liberty wherewith ye are made free; entangle not yourselves in sin, but let your hands be clean, until the Lord comes." (D. & C. 88:86.)

This is taken from a revelation, one of the greatest given to the Church, known as "The Olive Leaf." The Prophet so described it in sending the revelation to the brethren who were dwelling at that time in Zion, as it was called, "'The Olive Leaf,' which we have plucked from the Tree of Paradise." In the main,

this revelation was given for the guidance of missionaries. We have heard that we are all missionaries. Every member of the Young Women's and every member of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations is or ought to be a missionary, and we are all set apart, not by the laying on of hands; we have not had a special calling; we have not been singled out to do missionary labor, but as members of the Church, having pledged ourselves to the advancement of the gospel of Jesus Christ we become missionaries. That is part of the responsibility of every member of the Church. That does not mean that we have to go into a foreign field; we can be missionaries at home, nor is it necessary that we be called to be stake missionaries, for in this very revelation the Lord has something to say about it, and I am going to read those verses; in fact, I may want to read a good many of these verses, and then if the Spirit of the Lord directs me, maybe from some other revelations. Now, this that I will read was said to those who were called and appointed to go into the mission field, but you will see that the Lord applied it not only to all the members of the Church, but also to everybody else, whether in the Church or out of the Church:

"That ye may be prepared in all things when I shall send you again to magnify the calling whereunto I have called you, and the mission with which I have commissioned you.

"Behold, I sent you out to testify and warn the people, and it becometh every man who hath been warned to warn his neighbor.

"Therefore, they are left without excuse, and their sins are upon their own heads." (*Ibid.*, 88:80-82.)

So here is a command from our Father in heaven that is so broad that it is not confined to those who are set apart and commissioned and sent forth into the world to teach the world the gospel, but the Lord commands every soul to whom this message comes that it is his responsibility, not only to receive it, but also to carry it to his neighbor; and they who hear it and refuse to carry it, to warn their neighbors, shall be left without excuse before the judgment seat of God. Now as the Lord requires that of those who are not in the Church, then how much more so is it required of us who are members of the Church.

We should be missionaries of the Church by the manner of our living. Our lives should speak. The testimony of the truth should be borne through our faithfulness, the purity



of our lives, the integrity and devotion of our souls.

I am happy to know that this work of the Mutual Improvement organizations is going to go on through the whole year. I think it was Brother Stevenson who made the remark that the devil will be busy this summer. Well, did you ever hear of the devil taking a vacation? For six thousand years he has never laid off a day, nor an hour, nor a minute, and in all these years since he was cast out of heaven and placed upon the earth he has been determined to destroy faith, to lead away the innocent, to bind their souls through unrighteousness, teaching them wickedness, and always in the most clever manner. No, he does not rest.

I do not mean to say that we who are mortals should not take a few days off if we want to, to rest and build up our bodies, strengthen them, give our minds a chance perhaps to repair themselves and be prepared for the energies that will be required of them, but we should not lie down and forget the responsibilities which the Lord has placed upon us.

Whether we are engaged in softball, basketball, or in any other kind of sport, in dancing, or whatever it may be, it should all be done in the spirit of building up and strengthening the kingdom of God.

I am very grateful for the opportunities that come to our young people to engage in these sports under proper direction and to have this recreation. I think it is a part of the gospel plan, but whatever it is that we do should be done in the Spirit of the Lord, and if we cannot

do it that way, it should not be done. I think that this is the spirit in which these contests, whatever they may be, are carried on. I commend our good brethren throughout the Church who conduct these exercises, and the sisters, too, in drama, in art, in music, whatever it is, as well as in the athletic field.

This wonderful revelation, I say, was intended mostly, not all of it, but most of it, for missionaries, but there is in it much that is intended for members of the Church at large. There are things in it intended for the brethren holding the priesthood. The Lord has pointed out how they should meet in their solemn assemblies, the spirit in which they should meet, how these meetings should be conducted.

The members of the Church are taught to inform themselves in regard to all principles of truth, and much of this responsibility has been assigned to the Mutual Improvement organizations. I want to read these verses:

"Also, I give unto you a commandment that ye shall continue in prayer and fasting from this time forth.

"And I give unto you a commandment that you shall teach one another the doctrine of the kingdom.

"Teach ye diligently and my grace shall attend you, that you may be instructed more perfectly in theory, in principle, in doctrine, in the law of the gospel, in all things that pertain unto the kingdom of God, that are expedient for you to understand." (*Ibid.*, 88:76-78.)

Now I emphasize that, because I want to come back to it.

"Of things both in heaven and in the earth, and under the earth; things which have been, things which are, things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home, things which are abroad; the wars and the perplexities of the nations, and the judgments which are on the land; and a knowledge also of countries and of kingdoms." (*Idem*, v. 79.)

I say this is counsel given to missionaries; it is counsel that is good for all the members of the Church. We should make ourselves acquainted with all these things, but I am very glad that the Lord put in this counsel that expression, that in our seeking for knowledge, we seek for those things which are expedient for our understanding.

We are living in a very troubled world, and I am going to talk plainly: we are living in a world that has discarded God or is rapidly doing so. We are living in a world where the Christian ministers of various denominations have been frightened by the philosophies of men and, therefore, because they lack the Spirit of the Lord, have tried to modify the scriptures, or, the meaning of the scriptures, so that they can make them harmonize with the false theories so prevalent in the world today, theories which are in absolute conflict with divine revelation; and yet these people, afraid, dominated by the influence of false philosophy, are modifying the doctrines to make them conform to these theories and ideas which are godless in their foundation. We cannot afford to do that.

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TO BLUSH UNSEEN

by Lee Priestley

AT ELEVEN-THIRTY Mary Connor thought wearily about lunch. The children scudding from school would be ravenous and Pearl and Price, helping with the cleaning today, at least starved.

As she pushed her dark hair out of her eyes, she remembered that Janey thought that unruly forelock made her look "like a darling little pony, Mother!" Not a pony, Mary amended; a work horse! She hadn't stopped since seven o'clock.

Could she stretch the sparse remains of yesterday's roast chicken into a casserole? Mary sighed. Help was hard to get. She had been fortunate to get Pearl for a day's cleaning, no matter how inconvenient the day. The unfortunate part was Price and his appetite.

"Ain't no Pearl without Price," the woman had been firm. "I helps you; Price helps me. Besides where he goin' to get his lunch if he don't come?"

Mary mentally eked out the chicken with hard-boiled eggs and noodles as she crossed the bare living room. She sniffed the clean scent of soapsuds and floor wax, more pleasant than perfume to the good housekeeper. When Price finished the windows, she and Pearl would hang the clean curtains. After lunch they'd work upstairs.

Mary started the hard-boiled eggs and the noodles and began snipping remnants of meat from the skeleton of the chicken. If she could only have had Pearl and Price tomorrow.

Tonight Rose Afton would sing at Community Hall, and Mary had looked forward to meeting her at the reception the committee officers would give after the concert. Rose Afton who was everything Mary Connor had dreamed of being . . . opera singer, concert artist, "one of the real-



ly fine voices of our generation," the critics agreed. Mary had a fine voice, too, but there had been no money or opportunity for advanced study. Her teachers had urged her to persevere, but John and her own heart had urged her to marry.

"Oh!" Mary looked at her thumb-nail nicked by the paring knife. Now she would arrive at the reception with hands that shouted "small town drudgel"

She sat down on the kitchen stool and wished she were not too old to scream and drum her heels on the floor. Everything would be wrong. She thought about the new black taffeta hung up so carefully in a closet upstairs. It had looked "professional" to her yesterday when she finished it, but probably it shouted "homemade!" She would barely have time to run a comb through her hair and slap her nose with powder. And now look at her thumb.

Mary assembled the casserole and

slammed the oven door upon it. But John would feel hurt if she didn't go to the reception. He was president of the committee, and he knew how much she wanted to meet Rose Afton . . . how much she regretted her own lost career.

The phone rang, its shrill louder because of the bare living room. "Mary?" John's voice was eager and pleased. "Look, they're doing some redecorating at the hotel and the smell of paint makes Miss Afton sick. So I said you'd be glad to have her at the house for lunch and to rest until concert time. Won't that give you a wonderful chance to get acquainted with her?"

"Bring her *here*?" John, are you out of your *mind*?" Mary held the receiver away from her ear and regarded it with horrified eyes. "Left-overs for lunch and the house all torn apart. . . . It's simply out of the question."

(Continued on page 692)
THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



Rolling at a speed of twelve miles an hour, the early day trains on western roads were sometimes caught in a buffalo herd. Then passengers and trainmen alike enjoyed the sport of big-game hunting.

Old Shaggymane

by John Sherman Walker

MONARCH OF THE MIDLANDS

WHEN the great buffalo herds began disappearing from the western plains—slaughtered wholesale by white hunters set on reaping a rich gain of hides, and of eliminating the wild foragers from grasslands valued for the grazing of domestic livestock—the Indians, who had depended on the shaggy monarchs of the North American midlands for food, clothing, and even the very wigwam homes that sheltered them, foresaw the finish of the free life they and their ancestors had lived from time immemorial and the gradual usurpation of tribal lands they had owned long before the intruders first set boot on the shores of the New World.

When the vast herds began to dwindle under the onslaught of the white man, the red man feared for the life of his own people as well.

It has been stated that the American bison, or buffalo, dominated the life and shaped the institutions of a human race more than any other animal.

Certain it is, Old Shaggymane, the buffalo, was a mighty factor in the winning and settling of the west—much as he may have resented and resisted all efforts to immortalize him in the historic role he stubbornly played; even as the Plains Indians saw the shadow of doom in his passing.

In mass of numbers alone—estimated to have been, at maximum strength, no fewer than seventy-five million head—the buffalo was bound to impress his influence on the human hordes of white men who came to contest his wild domains in western America.

Early-day railroad men told of

traveling 120 miles through a continuous herd of the lumbering beasts on the Great Plains soon after the transcontinental line was completed.

One old frontiersman claimed to have witnessed the gathering of a single herd of bison of between two and three million animals, estimated to have covered one hundred square miles.

Kendall, of the ill-fated Santa Fe expedition, as late as 1841, when the buffalo herds were said to be decreasing, stated that he stood on a high knoll of the Texas prairie and looked out over the treeless plain upon a vast herd of the shaggy, hump-backed beasts darkening the land in every direction, as far as eye could see.

Colonel Dodge, great early-day plainsman, described a single herd of the animals twenty-five miles across,

(Continued on page 684)

Christ driving the moneychangers
from the temple.

—Camera Clix photo



MARK, THE GOSPEL OF ACTION

by Doyle L. Green

MANAGING EDITOR

IN THESE days of jet planes, H-bombs, rockets, television, and 3-D movies, it may be difficult for some of us to realize that the greatest events in the history of the world took place almost twenty centuries ago. And when we think of the thousands upon thousands of volumes of books in our great libraries, and see the racks in our stores flooded with magazines and "comic" and pocketbooks with their brilliant colors, sensational illustrations, and eye-catching titles, it may be even harder for some of us to believe that the accounts of those important events, written so long ago and now bound within the

unimposing covers of our Bibles and Testaments, still must be considered as the world's greatest literature.

All four of the books which we call the "gospels" in the New Testament are classics. They all tell the story of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Of these four books, the one that undoubtedly has the strongest appeal to young people is the book of Mark—the M.I.A. reading course book for 1953-54.

And indeed it should have appeal for everyone. It relates the greatest story that has ever been recorded, so far as this world is concerned, about the most important Being who

has ever lived upon the earth. Talk about color and miracles! It is probable that no author who ever lived, writing fact or fiction, has ever crowded so much action into sixteen short chapters as did the author of the book of Mark—and all of it dramatically, clearly, realistically, and tersely told. The entire book can be read easily and understood by all but the very youngest children, and this within the course of an hour, or at the most, an evening.

There are other reasons, too, why the book of Mark should have popular appeal. Here are some of them: (1) Scholars tell us that the book of

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

Mark was the first of the gospels to be written, and therefore may have formed a basis for the other three. (2) It is the shortest of the gospels. Its sixteen chapters compare with twenty-eight for Matthew, twenty-four for Luke, and twenty-one for John. (3) Its primary purposes seem to be to show the divinity of the Savior and to give a feel for the enthusiasm with which he went about doing his Father's work. (4) It was written by a man, who, after the death of the Apostles, probably knew as much or more about the story of Jesus as did anyone else then living.

The earliest Christian literature, as we know it, consists of the letters of Paul. His first letter to the Thessalonians was written around 50 A.D. But of the gospels, even though Matthew is placed first in the New Testament, Mark is probably the oldest, having been written not long after the death of the great Apostle, Peter, 64-67 A.D. Approximate probable dates of the writing of the other gospels according to some authors are: Matthew, 80 A.D., Luke, 90 A.D., and John, 100 A.D.

During his later years the Apostle Peter was in Rome. Not knowing the Greek language he must have preached Aramaic, and an interpreter must have translated his words into Greek to the Roman congregation. Mark, historians tell us, was often that interpreter and probably heard the stories of the Savior many times from Peter's lips. Dr. Goodspeed writes: "It is certainly a fact that almost everything in Mark might have been obtained from Peter, and much of the roughness and obscurity of the book would be explained on such a theory of its origin."² He states that Mark probably tried to write the stories as he heard them, without any particular attempt to make additions or add embellishments. It likely follows that of the gospels none is more authentic than Mark.

Although the book of Mark leaves some gaps in the story of the Savior and seems to be made up mainly of a series of separate incidents, still some authors think that it is the most nearly correct of all the gospels in its chronological arrangements. Be that as it may, few words are "wasted" on background, and little space is devoted to such matters as

oral sermons and teachings. It is the acts of the Savior that are described so dramatically and realistically.

In the first chapter Jesus is baptized of John in Jordan, spends forty days in the wilderness with wild beasts and is tempted by Satan and ministered to by angels, calls Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow him, casts out devils, heals the sick, and cleanses a leper! One could hardly picture a modern novel or short story, a radio play or a TV program with a more dramatic beginning.

And so the action of Jesus is portrayed through the rest of the book—rebuking unclean spirits, stilling a tempest, raising the dead, miraculously feeding the multitudes, walking on the sea, healing the sick and the infirm, declaring himself to be the Christ, the Son of God, being transfigured, blessing little children, forgiving repentant sinners, riding through cheering crowds into Jeru-

salem, cursing a fig tree, driving money changers out of the temple, being the victim of a conspiracy and a betrayal, and finally being condemned and crucified on a cross, only to be resurrected and rise triumphantly above all of the schemings of man and the devil!

There are other things, of course, in the book, but essentially it is made up of action.

What makes the account even more fascinating is the realization that it is all true. Here, without any question, is the most important story ever written, about the greatest Being who ever lived upon the earth. The events are the most significant in all history, and the story the most significant in all literature.

Such is the M.I.A. reading course for this year. It is hoped that every person in the Church will become acquainted with and learn to love the book of Mark.

Christ rescuing Peter
—Camera Clix photo



²Goodspeed, E. J., *An Introduction to the New Testament*, p. 134.

A. E. Bowen—1875-1953

by *Albert L. Zobell, Jr.*

RESEARCH EDITOR

ALBERT E. BOWEN possessed five outstanding qualities from which spring all the virtues: first, a gentleman, openly loyal and of an affable demeanor; second, thorough in his work and dependable; third, of sound judgment; fourth, sincere; and fifth, reverence. These were the words of President David O. McKay read in tribute to Elder Albert Ernest Bowen of the Council of the Twelve as he spoke at Brother Bowen's funeral services held in the Salt Lake Tabernacle July 18.

"No one I know has ever heard this great man speak lightly about anything sacred," he said.

"**H**E LOVED learning and constantly sought further knowledge," said President J. Reuben Clark, Jr. "He sought truth. He wasted no time with mere words. He had a logical mind and did not deviate but went directly to the point. He had a judicial temperament. He examined facts and gave a judicial decision. . . . He loved the gospel; it was his life, and he lived it as the Lord gave him power to live it."

ELDER Mark E. Petersen, an associate of Elder Bowen in the Council of the Twelve, and who, for many years was also associated with him at the Deseret News Publishing Company, believed that he learned a great lesson from Elder Bowen. When a problem would arise, Brother Bowen would ask, "What are the facts? Get all the facts, for there is no substitute for facts." Elder Petersen went on to quote Elder Bowen as recalling: "I must have been very small, because my older brothers and sisters were at school and I was not. It was before I was permitted to go to school, at least in the wintertime.

"To amuse me and keep me out from under her feet, my mother gave me some little brilliants in a bottle, something like the stage jewelry we

have. I was treasuring it and thinking what a good time I was going to have when my brothers and sisters came home, to show them what I had. Perhaps I thought I could make them envious. I don't know. But I know it was uppermost in my mind to exhibit it.

"But I lost it. I hunted everywhere, but I could not find it. I thought of the story of Joseph Smith's going into the woods to pray. There were no woods near my home, except in the canyons. But we did burn wood for fuel. My father, mother, and brothers used to go in the fall to cut logs and put them in a pile near the house, and that was my idea of the woods.

"So I went out to that woodpile and knelt down and asked the Lord to tell me how to find that bottle. When I came back through the gate and turned the corner of the house, there it was, standing there staring up at me, and I couldn't miss it.

"I have never since had any doubt or misgivings about the Lord nor his approachability."

PRESIDENT Richard L. Evans of the First Council of the Seventy summarizes his life in these words:

"His life in some ways would seem to be a sermon to a generation of young people who face serious uncertainties and are sometimes impatient with the delays of life. . . . His was a late start—which he overcame magnificently with a steady course: He was twenty years of age before he began his high school work; twenty-seven before he received his first college degree; married before he went on his mission; twenty-nine when he returned; a widower at thirty with two infant sons; thirty-three before he started the study of law; thirty-six before he received a degree in jurisprudence with highest honors at the University of Chicago. And with that late start, years be-

hind what most young men would these days consider essential—with all this, he rose to unusual eminence, professionally and personally. With all of this he proved a great point and principle; that hard work and high purpose are more important than traveling fast in deviating directions."

OVER a year ago, on June 25, 1952,

Elder Bowen was first stricken with the ailment that took his life. Three days before, on June 22, this author attended the quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, at which a vigorous Brother Bowen was the representative of the General Authorities. Hurrying to the evening session on Temple Square, I made note that tonight we'd hear the gospel—phrased in beautiful words. And that night a gospel principle in all its beauty and simplicity came from Elder Bowen's lips. As he started to sum up, I wondered where the time had disappeared. Then he was saying: "I came here fully prepared to speak on another subject, but some of you people in the congregation must have been praying to the Lord for an answer to some problems. And so I have been inspired to give you this. . . ." Truly, as Elder Petersen quoted Elder Bowen, "I have never . . . had any doubt or misgivings about the Lord nor his approachability."

* * * * *

Elder Albert E. Bowen was born October 31, 1875 at Henderson Creek, in southern Idaho, the seventh child of David and Annie Shackleton Bowen. A log cabin was his first home; the rigors of farm life formed his heritage. As a boy barely old enough to drive a team, A. E. Bowen was aiding his father in freighting grain and produce to Ogden, Col-linston, and Corrine, all railroad points in Utah. Also, when he was about ten, he spent one hard winter

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THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



Albert Ernest Bowen—October 31, 1875 - July 15, 1953

EDUCATION and ETERNITY

by Thomas E. Cheney

ASST. PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH,
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

One of the best educated men I ever met was one who never attended college. He possessed that completeness of personality which made it possible for him to ride a horse and talk to the broncho riders at the annual rodeo as well as to ride a plane with the captains of industry and gain the respect of both groups. He could read Mark Twain with the youth and Aristotle with the sages and gain educational experience from both. He could experience the comforting emotion of "My Wild Irish Rose" and the profound sensitivity of a Prelude from Bach.

AN EDUCATED man is one who is trained in mental attitudes, in social behavior, and in spiritual insight. He is possessor of these mental attitudes:

He has an open mind. He is alert, seeking for new ideas everywhere. Though he accepts knowledge from every source, he weighs it carefully; and through his ability to weigh, sift, compare, contrast, add to and subtract from segments of information, he can organize a sound philosophy—in short, he thinks. He closes no door until evidence is all in; therefore, he is able to change his mind, not as one who follows every whim, but as a student and thinker—he is teachable.

He listens to the man who knows. The egotist deters his own progress through his self sufficiency. Being convinced of his own superiority, he listens only to his own broadcast and never seeks knowledge from the great teachers or the wise sages. The educated man, on the other hand, recognizes his own limitations and when need arises seeks out wisdom from specialists.

He has sharp critical powers. He touches life so closely at every point that he can discern the motives of

(Continued on page 668)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



THE true Latter-day Saint is forever an insatiable seeker after light. He sees the limitless opportunity to live fruitfully and attain excellence. He counts time by his personal growth and reaches into the unknown where time is uncounted, where God's mercy provides eternity for his progression. The joy of attainment is always with him, for like Paul he believes that

... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (I Cor. 2:9.)

With this vision, he says, I shall not cease to learn while I live. My labor, my business, my calling, is to grow in grace and knowledge from day to day and from year to year. Nor will I cease to learn when I arrive in the spirit world, but there with illimitable time and accelerated power I will fortify myself with all knowledge.

This concept of eternal progression is the inheritance of the Latter-day Saint. But determination of the di-



rection of the first step in eternal education is his imminent concern. The revealed word promises that

Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection. (D. & C. 130:18.)

What are these principles of intelligence, these precepts of education?

Education is more than absorption of book learning with which it is often confused. It builds a complete man, not an information bureau or a learned fool.



"The Formal Gardens," part of the temple site at New Chapel, England.

President McKay Dedicates Two European Temple Sites

I want to bring the temple to the people," President David O. McKay was quoted as saying, by United Press, as he stood upon the temple site in Switzerland, August 5, 1953, "therefore, I will dedicate another temple site in County Surrey in England on my present European trip. Europe, therefore, will shortly have two temples of its own. [In the New World] ten temples have already been built by the Church."

President David O. McKay and Sister McKay had left Salt Lake City the morning of July 30 for Europe. They were joined in New York City by their son, Dr. Llewelyn R. McKay, head of the language department of the University of Utah, and by Elder Edward O. Anderson, Church architect. The party flew non-stop, New York to London.

After a day in England, visiting the thirty-two acre baronial estate known as "New Chapel Hall," some twenty-six miles south of London, which the Church has purchased as a temple site, he went by air to Basel, Switzerland, accompanied by President A. Hamer Reiser of the British Mission. There they were joined by President William F. Perschon of the Swiss-Austrian Mission, and Elder Samuel E. Bringham, former president of that mission.

Wednesday noon, August 5, the seven-acre hillside site of the Swiss Temple was dedicated by President David O. McKay in Zollikofen, a suburb of Berne, Switzerland. About three hundred members of the Church and interested friends attended this solemn occasion. At the time President McKay approved the architect's design for the Swiss temple last April, he indicated that construction would likely start this summer. "To that end," he said, "every effort is being directed."

At the same time President McKay said that the Church could bring temples to these people, many of whom could never receive the blessings of the house of the Lord otherwise, by building smaller edifices for this purpose and more of them. It was estimated that the cost of the Swiss temple would be approximately \$350,000.

President McKay dedicated the site for the British temple on August 10.

The site for the English temple is located about half way between London and Brighton. It is in the parish of Godstone, near the southeastern boundary of County Surrey. Near the property is the little hamlet of New Chapel.

The estate purchased by the Church

includes several buildings, the most important being a large mansion known as "The Hall." A highway cuts through the estate.

The formal gardens are the most extensive part of the property, and it is here that the temple is likely to be constructed. One purpose of President McKay's 1953 journey to Europe is to select the spot for the temple on this estate.

He inspected both the site in Switzerland and the site in England with temples in mind during his 1952 European travels. He announced the purchase of the Swiss site for a temple before he departed from Europe a year ago. The announcement of the purchase of the New Chapel site has been made only in recent weeks.

It is expected that the first two European temples of the restored Church will be near duplicates of each other, with Elder Anderson varying the plans only to fit the needs of the property.

So, for several weeks, the Saints in Europe have been busy working and anticipating their second visit from the President of the Church in as many years.

Thus another link in the forward march of the Church has been welded into place. May our brothers and sisters, fellow Saints of Europe, soon obtain their blessings in the houses of the Lord, a privilege that so far has only been available to those who live in or come here in the West or the Hawaiian Islands.

To: President David O. McKay
The Staff and Management of
Hotel Utah join your countless
friends in congratulating you on
your eightieth anniversary.

Max Carpenter, MANAGER



CURTAINS FOR JEANIE

by Julia Collier

JEANIE ANDREWS walked slowly home from the store, the bag of groceries heavy on her arm. She knew she should be clipping along at her usual speed or she would never get everything done at home, but she couldn't make herself hurry. She looked down Bay Street to the last house and thought bitterly: Our house is the poorest on the street. She might as well be honest with herself and admit that she was stalling along because she dreaded her own party tonight.

Today was Friday, and on Friday nights the girls from Jeanie's class at the commercial art academy summer school always met at the home of one of the members for a jamboree. They had gone the rounds of the class now, and tonight was Jeanie's turn. At the public library, where she had a parttime summer job, Miss Lacy, the librarian, had paid her for a week's work at noon and had let her go so she could get ready for her party. On the way home she had stopped at the store to buy ice cream tarts and some of those snazzy little sandwiches that make any party glamorous. Why, then, couldn't she get a lift out of planning her own party? Why couldn't she urge her leaden feet to hurry her homeward?

All summer Jeanie had been thrilled to be invited to the girls' homes. Each Friday night had been a new adventure. Jeanie had been charmed by the elegant homes, the retinue of maids; the rich furnishings, solid mahogany pieces, oriental rugs, exquisite china and silverware; and the unmistakable air of wealth and easy living.

She felt the warm flush creep up her neck and spread over her face. What would the girls think of her after they had seen the place where she lived? The square box of a



"I—I hate to have to ask you, Sis, but could you lend me three dollars?"

house where she and Mother and twelve-year old Bill, and Lindy Sue, and Baby Timmie, all crowded into four small rooms; and that awkward lean-to shed that Mother used as her fruit and cold drinks stand; and the filling station, forever smelling of gasoline and stale oil and hot motors.

She glanced at her watch—one thirty! Unless she hurried she wouldn't have time to pick up the new curtains and hang them in place and be ready to greet the girls at eight o'clock. She had wanted those white curtains, with the deep ruffles, ever since she had seen them in Huey's store. But the price was four ninety-eight a pair—practically fifteen dollars for the three windows. She had had to wait until payday. Now, with what she had left after buying the refreshments, and the three dollars she had saved from last

payday, she had the fifteen. She'd run down to Huey's and get the curtains as soon as she put the ice cream in the refrigerator.

She tried to force herself faster. Gloomily she thought: Why didn't I skip the meeting last time. If I had, my time for entertaining would have passed, and I might not have had to invite the class to my place at all.

From the first the girls in the art class had accepted Jeanie as one of their set. They did not understand how different her situation was. They did not know about Jeanie's summer job at the library nor how carefully she and her mother had to plan to have enough money for her tuition.

Jeanie scuffed her oxfords against the sidewalk. She liked all the girls in art school. She wanted to be one of them—but what chance had she?

(Continued on following page)

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Curtains for Jeanie

(Continued from preceding page)

She thought: Why is it some girls have it easy and pleasant, while others must do without practically everything a girl really wants?

But she checked herself when she began to feel that in some way she was not being as reliable as she had always intended to be, especially since the plane crash out on the west coast two years ago. Just before her father left on that trip, he said to her: "You are growing up, Jeanie, and I'm glad to say you are a very reliable girl. It's a comfort to me to have a grown daughter I can depend upon."

When the yellow telegram came, and they knew Dad would never come home, Jeanie made up her mind that all her life she would make her father's words true. Mother would always be able to depend upon her eldest daughter. Of course Jeanie understood why her mother had to sell the big house and buy the smaller one with the fruit stand and the filling station. Mother wanted to be at home with her children while she was working to make everything as good and comfortable and secure for them as possible.

As Jeanie turned into the path at home her brother Bill came around to the front from putting gas in a car. A shy grin spread over Bill's sun-tanned face. He brushed one hand over his stiff, brown crew cut and began in a hurried undertone.

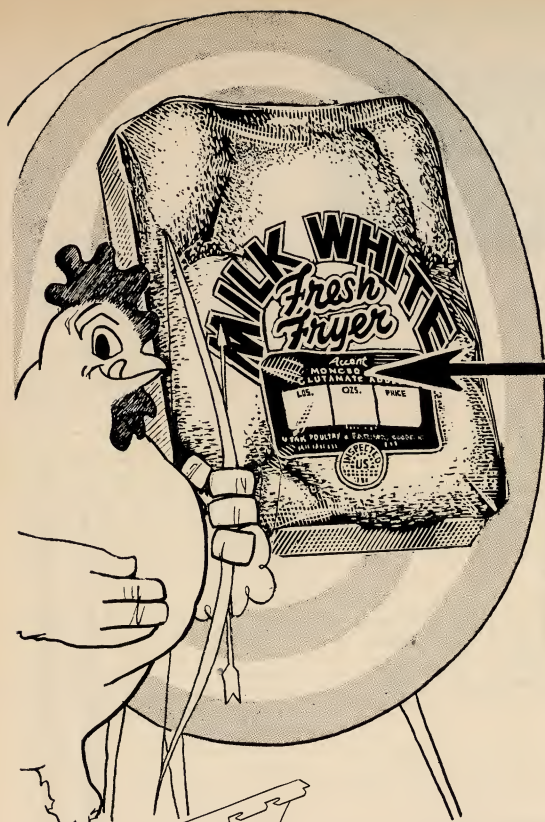
"I—I hate to have to ask you, Jeanie, but—could you lend me three dollars?"

A grimy, boyish hand touched Jeanie's sleeve. "You see, Sis, the class decided to order junior high pins tomorrow." His eyes brightened. "They're keen, Jeanie. But we have to pay more down than I've got. I thought maybe. . . ."

There was a loud honk, and Bill had to rush to the pump. Jeanie stood and watched him hurrying up to the big gray car with his polite, "Fill it up, sir?" She saw him lift the hose off the hook with strong young arms, and trot around to the back of the car. Not many boys Bill's age could be depended on to take care of a filling station as well as he did. At this very moment Bill's friends were at the swimming pool. But here was Bill, hard at

(Continued on page 660)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



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Curtains for Jeanie

(Continued from page 656)

work helping Mother. And without a complaint.

Slowly Jeanie walked into the house.

She didn't look toward the tired old curtains in the living room as she went back to her own bedroom. While she was changing to her blue jeans and red plaid shirt, a little scene she thought she had forgotten flashed into her mind. It was a simple incident, not important she had thought, but it came back to her now with poignant clearness.

It was the day school closed last spring. She was sitting in the glider on the porch when Bill came down the path, grinning broadly. Without a word he stepped up to her and handed her his card—his proof of promotion to junior high. He stood by proudly, giving her a moment to take it all in. Then he thrust out his chest and said, "Now don't be jealous, Sis. You've been the only high school student in this family long enough."

Crossing over to her dresser Jeanie opened her purse and counted out three one dollar bills and stuffed them in her pocket. Out at the filling station the gray car had gone, but there was another pulling in. She rushed to Bill, and without a word she took his oil-stained hand and put the three dollars into it, closing his fist tight over the money.

Bill opened his mouth in surprise, and then gladness lit up his face. "Oh, thanks, Sis. Thanks a million," he said under his breath, running to the waiting car.

Back in the kitchen Jeanie began to store the ice cream in the refrigerator. "I won't think about the curtains—I won't" she muttered, her hands flying like lightning. As she finished and slowed down, she began to notice a sobbing noise. She listened. When it came again, she went to the door and looked out. There was Lindy Sue, sitting on the bottom step, her head buried in her arms. Lindy Sue was eight, but she had been a puny baby and was still small and thin. Jeanie could see the narrow shoulders beneath the faded blue dress rise and fall with the stifled sobs.

She went down the steps and sat beside Lindy Sue. "What is it,

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THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

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HIGHLAND . . . ILLINOIS

Curtains for Jeanie

(Continued from page 660)

honey?" she crooned. "Tell Sis about it."

Lindy Sue buried her face in Jeanie's lap, and all her woe spilled out for Jeanie to share.

"These old sleeves," she sobbed, holding out one small arm to show Jeanie how much too short her sleeves were. "Rita called me Lindy Long Arms," and fresh sobs shook the small body, shutting off the words. As soon as she could speak again, she sobbed, "All the kids put on their swim suits and went to play in Jan's wading pool. All but me. I don't have a swim suit. They say Mother is too poor to buy me one. Oh, Jeanie, Jeanie!"

Jeanie could feel the fierce anger flaring up in her eyes. She stroked the bowed head with a hand that trembled a little. But when she spoke her voice was cheerfully gay.

"Mercy! Is that all?" She lifted Lindy Sue's head tenderly, then hugged her hard. "You sit still a minute."

Jeanie hurried to her room, and in a flash she was back again, one hand deep in her blue jeans pocket.

"I'll tell you what," she said excitedly. "Let's go across the street to Miss Ida's shop and see if she has a swim suit for you. Maybe a red one," she smiled brightly. "Would you like a red swim suit, honey?"

Lindy Sue's brown eyes were round and bright. Her lips parted, but no words came. Jeanie took her hand, and they skipped around the house and across the street. A little later Lindy Sue emerged from Miss Ida's shop wearing a new red swim suit and a big happy smile. She ran across the playground to Jan's house and the screaming crowd in the wading pool.

By the time dinner was ready Jeanie was so low in her mind she couldn't have eaten a thing, if Mother hadn't cooked spareribs and dumplings. She never could resist her mother's dumplings. As she served the plates, she thought: Isn't this like Mother? She knows I need a lift, so she cheers me up with my favorite dish.

"Now, dear," Mother said as Jeanie, finishing ahead of the others, pushed back her chair. "You go to

(Continued on page 664)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

The UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
salutes a
Most Distinguished Graduate

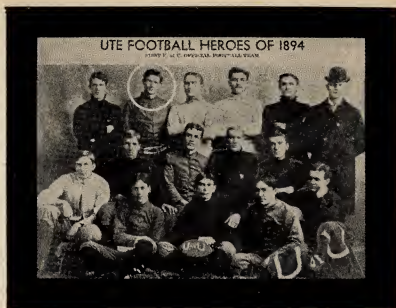
DAVID O. MCKAY

The University of Utah proudly claims David O. McKay as a most distinguished alumnus. President McKay graduated from our State University in 1898.

He played tackle on this stalwart University of Utah football team of 1894 and was active in school activities.

Not only President McKay, but all members of his family are alumni of the University of Utah.

This illustrious family group of alumni, below, showing their class years, follows



Back row, left to right: Conway Ashton, 1933; Mrs. Conway Ashton (Emma Rae McKay), 1934; Dr. Edward R. McKay, 1936; Mrs. Edward R. McKay, 1942; David Lawrence McKay, 1926; Mrs. David L. McKay, 1924.

Front row: Mrs. Robert R. McKay, 1946; Robert R. McKay, 1941; Mrs. David O. McKay, 1899; David O. McKay, 1898; Mrs. Russell H. Blood (Lou Jean McKay), 1927; Dr. Llewelyn R. McKay, 1928; and Mrs. Llewelyn R. McKay, 1930. (Dr. Russell H. Blood, who was in Korea when the picture was taken, is also a graduate, class of 1927.)



U N I V E R S I T Y O F U T A H



L et us be more determined

to make beautiful homes,

to be kinder husbands,

more thoughtful wives,

more exemplary to our children,

determined that in our homes

we are going to have

just a little taste

of heaven here on this earth."

President David O. McKay

ZCMI

America's First Department Store

Curtains for Jeanie

(Continued from page 662)

your room and take a long nap. We want to tidy the house for your party and surprise you." She glanced slyly around at the group. "The children and I have secret plans."

Lindy Sue looked up at Jeanie, her eyes shining like stars. "We're going to make the living room be-eau-ti-ful!" she said, shaking her head from side to side for emphasis.

"Yal ya!" squealed Timmie, waving a spoon. "Gonna get purple curtains! Like de purple cow!"

Mother and the children laughed gleefully. A cold fright swelled inside Jeanie until she could feel the dull ache of it.

Purple curtains! Had Mother bought those cheap, hideous things the variety store had been featuring? "Mother, what is Timmie talking about?"

Mother's smile was tantalizing. "Just you wait, Jeanie," she said. "You're going to be surprised. A little dye and some starch. . . ."

"Oh, Mother . . .," Jeanie began but stopped because her voice was about to break. Mother walked over and looked down at her daughter in her penetrating way. A beam from the low sun fell across the room outlining the slight droop to Mother's shoulders and touching her pale cheeks with a rosy glow. Jeanie felt her mother's hand light and cool on her forehead.

"Jeanie, I know how you feel, believe me. But perhaps it won't be as bad as you imagine. You enjoy the girls, and they like you. I think you will have a very pleasant evening together."

Mother slipped her arm around Jeanie and hugged her hard. "Really, Jeanie, it isn't so awful to live in a small home. Our place is neat, and when the children and I give it a few touches, I think you'll say it is very nice. The important thing is to be a good sport. Be proud to entertain your friends in your home. Forget yourself in making your guests comfortable and happy." She gave Jeanie another squeeze. "Now run along, dear. Get your beauty nap."

After a shower Jeanie slipped between the cool sheets. "Purple curtains!" she muttered. Mother had said something about dye. Jeanie buried her face in her arm to shut

(Concluded on page 666)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

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SEPTEMBER 1953



Curtains for Jeanie

(Concluded from page 664)

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out the image of ugly purple curtains hanging limp and heavy at the windows. Home-dyed curtains! That would be the last straw. This terrible evening would be "curtains" for Jeanie Andrews' art lessons. She wouldn't have the courage to face the girls in art class, after tonight.

When Jeanie opened her eyes, the clock on her dresser said seven thirty. She got up and tried to dress quickly. But nothing seemed to go right. A strap pulled loose and had to be sewed on. Then a button popped off her pink organdy, and she had to sew that on, too. At last she was dressed and was stepping into her patent leather pumps when she heard a knock on her door.

"Come in," she mumbled, recognizing her mother's soft rap.

Mother put her head inside the door. "It's almost eight, dear. Everything is ready. The children and I will come out and meet the girls when they come, then we'll leave you."

"Oh, Mother," Jeanie began.

"My! How pretty you look!" Mother said, and went out.

In a few minutes Jeanie went slowly into the living room. At the door she stopped and looked around. Then she caught her breath and held it. This was magic! The same room, but . . . it was a place of enchantment. The little silver-beaded lamp on the table shed a rosy glow over the room, washing the walls with pale pink, and touching the background pattern with glints of silver.

Jeanie stood still, her heart pounding. And then she saw the curtains lifting and billowing in the breeze. Like spider webs sparkling with violet dew in the early morning. Soft as the petals of a pansy. Suddenly a lump rose warm and tight in Jeanie's throat. Mother was right! How foolish she had been to feel ashamed of her little home. Of course the girls would enjoy the glow of this pretty room . . . and Mother's warm welcome . . . and the children's sweet friendliness. . . .

There was the sudden clatter of footsteps on the porch, and Jeanie's pumps beat a happy rhythm on the rug as she ran to the door, arms wide to greet the girls.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

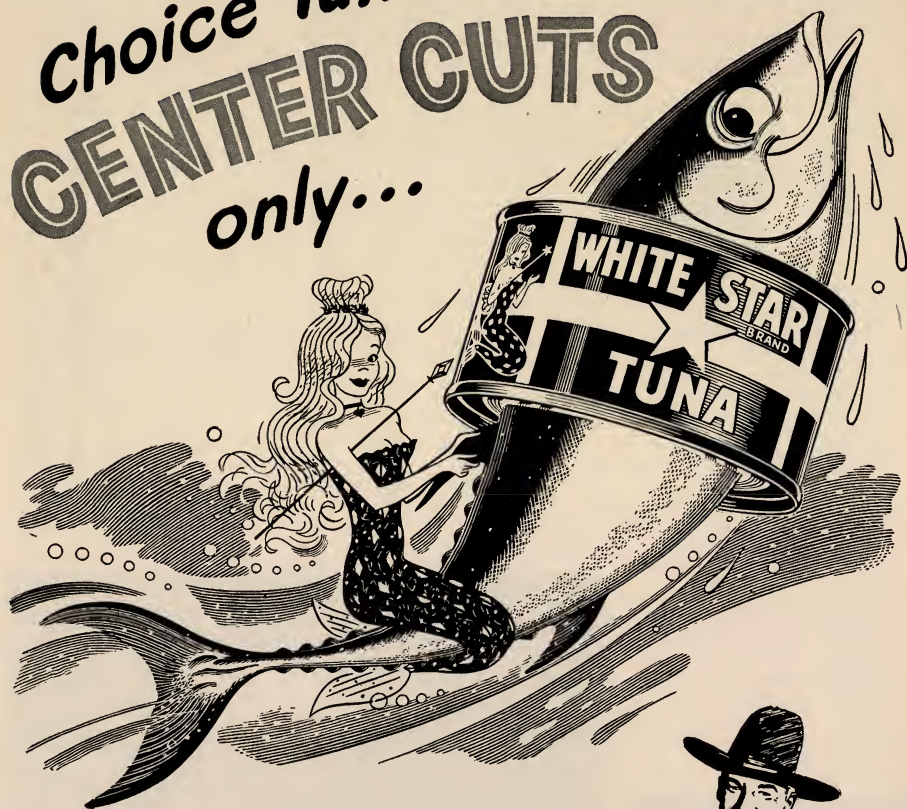
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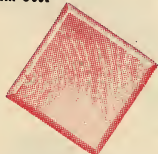
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EDUCATION AND ETERNITY

(Continued from page 654)

men. Though tolerant, he is aware of man's weakness through his gift of discernment of spirits.

He is quick to recognize fraud. He will not be sold magic of any divination or incantation but is awake to fraudulent schemes of all types whether spurious political promises, sure-thing investments, give-away sales, a college education in six months, or eternal life through a simple confession of faith.

He has the habit of directed reflection. He is always in good company when he is alone, for his thinking is directed toward the greatest and most exalted experience of his past. He hears again what Handel heard and recorded; he smells the rose; he feels the silken veil; he sees past experiences in reflected light. Yet, the educated man, though equipped with the power of reflection, is not an idle dreamer.

He cross-examines his mental reflections. He does not lose sight of the reality of his own existence nor the necessity of relating his thoughts to his actions. The educated man's dream broadens his vision, strengthens his ideals, expands his capacities, ennobles his soul, spurs his ambitions, ignites his enthusiasm, and improves his performance.

He has a forward looking, outward looking conception of life. The prison walls of his earthly limitations do not shut him in. Though his earthly subsistence may be obtained through tightening the third bolt of the water pump on an internal combustion engine as it moves along the

assembly line, he is not narrow or cramped in mental claustrophobia, for he moves away from his water pump to take a look at life. He obtains knowledge of life through reading the best that men have written. He lays aside his wrench to take up the violin or to hold the easel or to push the pen. Then when he returns to the assembly line, he has a deep well of experience from which to draw in reflection.

These attitudes of the educated man bear fruit in social behavior. The possessor of them is tolerant, progressive, and objective in his point of view.

THE educated man has in addition, three social characteristics. First, he is able to use his mother tongue with correctness and facility. This involves the ability to read, interpret, speak, and write.

Since an educated man must be able to think, and since thinking is accomplished by means of thought patterns made up of words, one can think only as elaborately as his supply of words permits. Not only does the educated man possess an adequate vocabulary, but he also possesses the ability to express himself with precision and correctness.

Second, he loves and patronizes the beautiful. He loves the beauties of nature, and he patronizes the arts. He can be deeply moved by harmonies of sweet sounds, harmonies of color, and harmonies of movement.

Third, he is a man of action with power to do. No man can claim to be

(Continued on page 670)

An educated man is not necessarily a scholar; he may be a man of action with power to do.

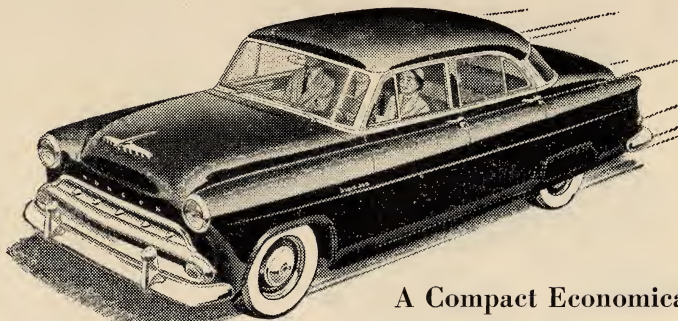


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Education and Eternity

(Continued from page 668)

educated who is not capable of doing at least one thing well. Being one who both observes and interprets his environment, he directs his efforts toward placing himself significantly in that environment, thereby blessing the earth and the people in it with his contribution. If he is a doctor, he is a learned doctor; if he is a lawyer, he is an efficient lawyer; if he is a farmer he is a progressive farmer; if he is a teacher, he is a wise teacher; if he is a mechanic, he is an expert mechanic.

Being aware of his civic and church responsibilities, he contributes to the general welfare of his church and community. A man may have book learning and mental agility without being possessor of this all-important ability to apply his learning in his daily pursuits. Such a one has lost or never attained usefulness and is, therefore, not educated. He is a potential power and will become complete only when training and learning are put to practical use.

Finally, the educated man has spiritual insight. He is moral. He cannot sin against man; man is his partner. He cannot sin against God; God is his master. He can and does extend his sight beyond his local horizon to see into eternity. Though he cannot know eternity, he can seek always to understand his own existence; he can be a philosopher of eternity. His religion is a religion of moral excellence and purity, of integrity and diligence through which he overcomes evil with good.

A man who is possessor of all these qualities in their ultimacy is educated. But no man has ever in this life reached the pinnacle of complete education, and no man is aware of that truth more than the man who has climbed the highest in educational pursuits.

If we are to profit by the fruits of education we must first know what we are seeking. Thoughtfully considering the marks of the educated man in their entirety, we become aware that to learn is to advance, to become educated is to expand experience and increase capacity. We are saved in our Father's kingdom as we gain intelligence. Thus the fruits of education are the fruits of eternal life. Through pursuit of education we may reach the tree whose fruit is desirable to make one happy. At the

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

end of this life we may have made sufficient progress to make possible our association with those of brightness and glory among the heavenly hosts. Yet when we have passed the veil, we shall see that we have just begun to learn.

The fruit of education, then, is attainment of a position of receptivity by which we can become a candidate for the choicest blessings in store for the righteous. This is verified by the word of the Lord, which says:

How long can rolling waters remain impure? What power shall stay the heavens? As well might man stretch forth his puny arm to stop the Missouri river in its decreed course, or to turn it up stream, as to hinder the Almighty from pouring down knowledge from heaven upon the heads of the Latter-day Saints. (D. & C. 121:33.)

Let it Be Done in the Spirit of Faith

(Continued from page 647)

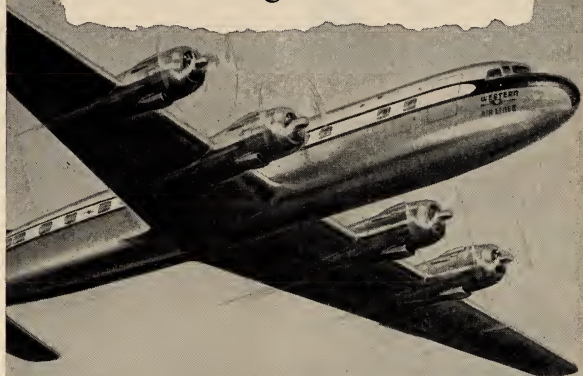
I picked up a book that is being used in a great many high schools throughout the United States, published by three gentlemen of renown, noted in their certain fields of science. This book was one that was in the possession of one of my grandsons who does not live here in Salt Lake City, but it is in his possession, and it is being used in the schools. In it some of these theories, damnable in their nature, are placed before these children in a very enticing form to lead them away from a belief in God.

You cannot see what I have in my hand, but it is showing to these students in the school where man came from. I wish we had a blackboard here, and I were an artist, but it does not take an artist to do this. I am going to tell you just what there is here.

Here is a V-shaped diagram showing on one side the descent of animals, on the other the descent of plants, or ascent, whichever way you want to look at it, from a little speck. At one time, according to the theory, this came to life all of itself, spontaneously, and presently it became an amoeba, and then a worm, and then an insect, and here is the amoeba, here is the worm, here is a grasshopper representing the insect, then a reptile, and finally they put a cow. I do not know why they picked a cow, because Mr. Darwin says that we are related to the horse, but that

(Continued on following page)

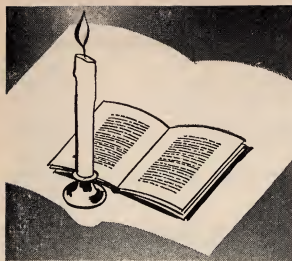
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LET IT BE DONE IN THE SPIRIT OF FAITH

(Continued from preceding page)
does not matter. That is on one side. Then from this same side of the V and from the same source we get the algae that we find in the water, then the fungi, like the toadstools, then the mosses, then the ferns, and after a while, we get the trees, all coming from the same source.

That is the kind of stuff that that book is filled with. Then it shows on one page the leg of a man and opposite it the leg of a grasshopper, showing how much they are alike. The one thing they overlook is that the grasshopper's leg works just opposite to the way the man's leg works, so far as the joint is concerned.

You can see the effect that has upon

the youth, and they add other pictures, scores of them, and all of this is being taught to your sons and your daughters, your children's children when they get old enough to have children in public schools, and you cannot get a textbook, anywhere that I know of, on the "ologies," except theology, and many of those carry you the same way, along this same course of nonsense—that is all it is.

So I think the Lord was wise here in saying that in our studying we must study those things that are expedient, things that are useful, that will not destroy faith in God.

Now, we believe we are the sons and daughters of God, do we not?

(Continued on page 674)

Freedom Under God...

Richard L. Evans

THERE are many theories of government, many political persuasions, many systems of social orders, many philosophies and speculations as to the place and importance of people. But whatever the theories, whatever the allegiance, whatever the ideologies, this blessed freedom we have had has come because the Founding Fathers recognized, first, a living God as the supreme factor and force in the universe and in the affairs of men and nations, and, second, a man as an immortal child of God, responsible to him in matters of conscience and responsible as brothers one to another. Anyone who would eliminate the Lord God from the foundations of freedom or from any social system would in fact be eliminating the very foundations of his own freedom—whether he knows it or not. No matter what a person may think or suppose he thinks of divine Providence, freedom is founded on the fact that God lives, that his commandments are real and incumbent upon us, that man is more than another order of animal, that he is a child of God whom his eternal Father made in his own image, that he was given dominion over all the earth, that he is of prime importance in the divine plan and purpose, and that he has been endowed with free agency and other God-given rights and responsibilities which no man can justly set aside. If the right of freedom were not God-given, if we were answerable only to ourselves, only to society, freedom would have little assurance of survival. The Founding Fathers knew this and acknowledged it; and the agnostic who avowedly knows it not, nevertheless has his free agency as a gift from God whom he thinks he knows not. The fatherhood of God and the free agency of man which God has given, are the foundation of freedom.

"The Spoken Word" FROM TEMPLE SQUARE
PRESENTED OVER KSL AND THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING
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Take your choice—
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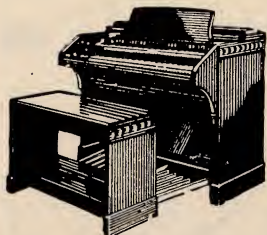
Under the inspired leadership of President David O. McKay, the Church and its institutions move forward through an era of great growth and development. On this, his eightieth year, we wish him life's greatest joys.



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PROVO

Let it Be Done in the Spirit of Faith

(Continued from page 672)

The Lord has revealed it. He has taught us that in our own day. You will find it so recorded in Section 76 in the Doctrine and Covenants. The Savior taught his disciples that we are the offspring of God, and he said to Mary, when she met him after his resurrection, "... go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God," (John 20:17) and that he would then come and visit with them.

We have just surrendered, I think, and now these silly things are dominating the teaching of the peoples of the world in what are called civilized countries.

Now, a few more things from this revelation which concern us, one and all:

"Behold, that which you hear is as the voice of one crying in the wilderness—in the wilderness, because you cannot see him—my voice, because my voice is Spirit; my Spirit is truth; truth abideth and hath no end; and if it be in you it shall abound.

"And if your eye be single to my glory, your whole bodies shall be filled with light, and there shall be no darkness in you; and that body which is filled with light comprehendeth all things.

"Therefore, sanctify yourselves that your minds become single to God, and the days will come that you shall see him; for he will unveil his face unto you, and it shall be in his own time, and in his own way, and according to his own will.

"Remember the great and last promise which I have made unto you; cast away your idle thoughts and your excess of laughter far from you.

"Tarry ye, tarry ye in this place, and call a solemn assembly, even of those who are the first laborers in this last kingdom.

"And let those whom they have warned in their traveling call on the Lord, and ponder the warning in their hearts which they have received, for a little season.

"Behold, and lo, I will take care

(Continued on page 676)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA



Hearty Congratulations to Both of You!

Wherever President David O. McKay and Mrs. McKay go in their extended travels, they spread good will and make new warm friends.

All sixty thousand men and women of Union Pacific Railroad wish them many more years of joyous journeying together along life's way.

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CONGRATULATIONS
TO

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DAVID O. MCKAY

for
80 Years of Service to

- HIS CHURCH
- HIS COMMUNITY
- AND HIS FELLOW MEN

Auerbach's

STATE AND BROADWAY

SALT LAKE CITY

Let it Be Done in the Spirit of Faith

(Continued from page 674)

of your flocks, and will raise up elders and send unto them.

"Behold, I will hasten my work in its time." (D. & C. 88:66-73.)

Here the Lord promises that if we are faithful and true we will behold his face. There is not anyone here this afternoon who has not seen his face. Every one of you, we all dwell in his presence, we have all seen him, but for a wise purpose that knowledge was taken away, and the Lord intends that we should walk by faith, not by sight. Here is what the Lord says himself about it in this same revelation:

"Behold, all these are kingdoms, and any man who hath seen any or the least of these hath seen God moving in his majesty and power.

"I say unto you, he hath seen him; nevertheless, he who came unto his own was not comprehended.

"The light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not; nevertheless, the day shall come when you shall comprehend even God, being quickened in him and by him.

"Then shall ye know that ye have seen me, that I am, and that I am the true light that is in you, and that you are in me; otherwise ye could not abound." (*Ibid.*, 88:47-50.)

This is a wonderful revelation. It covers so many things of vital importance to every member of the Church. I wonder how many of us have read Section 88? Do not stop by just reading this one section. Take it as your theme, there is none better, but read the whole revelation. No! read the whole book. The Lord commanded in the very first section of the Doctrine and Covenants, which is the preface of this book, the Lord's preface:

"Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled." (*Ibid.*, 1:37.) "Search these commandments." How much do we love the Lord? What is the greatest of all the commandments? The Lord has told us here, in Section 59 of the Doctrine and Covenants, what it is, as he applies it to the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in this Dispensation of the Fulness of Times:

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

"Wherefore, I give unto them [the members of the Church] a commandment, saying thus: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy might, mind, and strength; and in the name of Jesus Christ thou shalt serve him.

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Thou shalt not steal; neither commit adultery, nor kill, nor do anything like unto it.

"Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things." (*Ibid.*, 59:5-7.)

So, the first of all the commandments is to love God with all our soul, and in the name of Jesus Christ, serve him, and he has commanded us to make ourselves familiar with these truths which have been revealed to us in the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times.

How many of us have done it? So I say to you, and all the members of the Church, for that matter, do not let your understanding rest upon one verse, which is a very excellent theme, but search the scriptures that you may not be deceived by false theories and practices and doctrines so prevalent in the world today. If you will do this, if you will have in your hearts the guidance of the Spirit of the Lord which every member of the Church has a right to have, the companionship of the Holy Ghost, you will not be led astray by the theories of men because the Spirit of the Lord will tell you they are false, and you will have the spirit of discernment that you may understand.

Now I was going to read two passages from the Bible, because they are so closely connected with this theme. The Savior was speaking to the Jews. They marveled at his doctrine, and "Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." (John 7:16-17.)—"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine—"

Why, we ought to be able to understand the doctrine of Jesus Christ; we ought to have within us the power, aided by the Spirit of the Lord, to discern between the doctrines that come from our Father in heaven, through his Son, Jesus Christ, and the doctrines of men.

When you go to school, and you are told all these theories and have

(Concluded on following page)

The Eightieth Anniversary of a Great Spiritual Leader

It is with abiding appreciation of our enduring friendly relationship with a great man that we congratulate President David O. McKay, of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, upon the Eightieth Anniversary of his birth.

One of our country's most distinguished citizens, President McKay's influence is reflected in the spiritual and temporal welfare and progress of his Church and of the Mormon people. May his guidance continue for many years to come.

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President, Lackawanna Railroad

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LET IT BE DONE IN THE SPIRIT OF FAITH

(Concluded from preceding page)

to pass an examination on them, all right, write it down and say, "This is what my teacher says," and "This is what the textbook says." You do not have to say you believe it.

Here is the other passage: He had been preaching to the Jews, and many of them believed on him. "As he spake these words, many believed on him.

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (*Ibid.*, 8:30-32.)

Now if you understand the gospel of Jesus Christ, it will make you free. If your softball, your volleyball, your basketball, your foot racing, your dancing, your other entertainments are devoid of the Spirit of the Lord, they will be of no value to you. Let everything be done in the spirit of prayer and in faith. I think that is the case, maybe it is unnecessary for me to say it, but so let it be. Do

everything with an eye single unto the glory of God, and let us teach to build up and strengthen ourselves and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

May the Lord bless all of us and be with you people who are leading and directing in this Mutual Improvement work that you may teach and guide the youth in the truth that will make them free.

And so I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

These Times

(Continued from page 626)

present party strength in the Canadian House of Commons is as follows:

Liberals	184 seats
Progressive-Conservatives	48 seats
Cooperative Commonwealth Federation	13 seats
Social Credit	10 seats
Independents	4 seats
Liberal-Labor	1 seat
Vacancies	2 seats
	262 seats

Canada is a federal republic as the United States is a federal republic. Where the U.S.A. has forty-eight state governments as the basis of the federal union, Canada has ten provinces, plus the Northwest and Yukon territories. These provinces are: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and, recently added, the former separate "dominion" of Newfoundland. Over eighty-five percent of the total population are Canadian-born. Nearly forty-eight percent are of British origin; about thirty-one French. Some 137,000 Indians were numbered in the 1951 census, plus 8,550 Eskimos.

Canadian social policies are much like those of the United States. If Canadians will permit me to say so, they tend to take a less frenetic view of same, however. Perhaps this is because the Liberal Party, in power going on three decades, is something like the American Republican Party but with "New Deal like" policies. Thus, under the Canadian Social Security Act of 1951, aged persons over seventy are entitled to a forty dollar check each month from the government. On October 31, 1952, ninety-five percent of all Canadians over age seventy (675,423) were receiving their forty dollars, without much fuss

To Pres. David O. McKay

The employes and management of Hi-Land Dairy join with your countless friends in congratulating you on your eightieth birthday



HI-LAND DAIRY



HI-LAND at the store...



Millbrook at the door

or feathers. The Canadians are probably more realistic than their U.S. neighbors to the south who have put the retirement age at sixty-five—too low, most of us now realize. However the Canadians provide an old age "assistance" plan for their sixty-five to seventy year-old group, again forty dollars each month. But only sixteen percent (81,000) were taking advantage of it on October 31, 1952. The "liberal conservatism" of Canada's political leadership seems to have recognized the facts of industrial, urban life and adjusted thereto gracefully. Canada's federal budget of nearly four billion dollars is large for her 14,009,429 (1951) people, and nearly comparable to that of the U.S.A. A sound and growing economy helps the national income. The total investment in Canada's oil, for example, has increased about four hundred percent since 1945 (from \$296,000,000 to over \$1,225,000,000). And to the iron of Quebec and Labrador, the western powers all look for strength.

PRAIRIE SUNSET

By Beryl Stewart

SUNSET is a brilliant shawl
Across the shoulders
Of tired earth.
Its designs
Show pheasants gliding
Toward their nests in prairie grass.

Religiously, forty-three percent of all Canadians are Roman Catholics—6,069,496 of them. The interesting "United Church of Canada" (formed some years ago from Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Methodists) claims about twenty-one percent of the people, with 2,867,271 members. The Church of England (Episcopalians in the U.S.A.) holds the confidence of 2,060,720, or fifteen percent; while those Presbyterians who remained out of the "United Church of Canada" are the fourth largest body with 781,747 (5.6%). They are followed by the Baptists with 519,885 (3.7%), Jewish, Mennonite, Latter-day Saint, and other congregations.

Canada's common frontier with the U.S.A. for nearly three thousand miles is one of the tremendous facts of history. The entire world may look with admiration at the friendship existing on both sides of this largest and longest unguarded, (in the military sense), unfortified frontier. Canada is fast becoming one of earth's leading powers. It is not unlikely that a future statesman may well paraphrase Bismarck who reputedly said: "The greatest single fact

(Concluded on following page)

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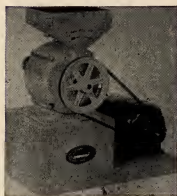


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20"	300	7 to 10	100	\$325.00	7 1/2 h.p. \$490.00
24"	500	12 to 15	140	\$450.00	15 h.p. \$700.00
30"	700	20 to 25	140	\$555.00	20 h.p. \$885.00

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BIRTHDAY**



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THESE TIMES

(Concluded from preceding page)

In diplomacy is the fact that the people of the British Isles and the United States of America speak the same language." The future phrase-maker may well offer the thought that the greatest single fact in international relations and world affairs is the understanding and friendship between the Dominion of Canada and the United States of Amer-

ica. We may well recall the insight of Joseph Smith who, April 8, 1844 at his last general conference, declared: "The whole of America is Zion itself from north to south. . . ."

Let us never forget that the largest piece of that American land "from north to south" is our great neighbor to the north, the Dominion of Canada. Let's promote our knowledge of it and thereby enhance our mutual friendship.

AT HOME WITH THE MCKAYS

(Continued from page 645)

family. Decoration Day, the Fourth of July, Christmas, winter holidays, President and Sister McKay go one day early to the Huntsville home when they can to make it ready for the family. President McKay will hitch the horses to the lawn mower and cut the grass, so that the boys will have a good place to play baseball. The riding horses are curried and made ready so that each child may have a turn riding. On the current July Fourth, President McKay was scheduled to appear in the Provo parade, which he did. But as soon as the parade was over, he headed the car for Huntsville and arrived there at three o'clock in the afternoon—to be in that community where his heart is. In the early days the four kitchens at the Huntsville home provided adequate cooking facilities for all President McKay's brothers and sisters and their families in addition. Consequently solidarity developed in the McKay family and provided good companionship between President McKay and his sons as they worked in the fields or played together. They also developed and learned the true value of work. The girls of the family also had opportunity when "Mama Ray" came to Salt Lake City occasionally to care for her husband. The girls were left to keep house—cook, wash, iron, mend, and learn home management from a practical point of view.

During the winter holidays, "Papa Dade" hitches the horses so that the children may have sleigh rides. Oh, the fun they have as a family might be the example for all Latter-day Saint families throughout the world! The great game for all the McKays is Rook. It is a relaxation as well as a social pastime. Crokinole used to be a favorite when the children were

younger. There were always two outings that they could count on for the summer: a trip to Yellowstone Park and an excursion to Lagoon. No summer was complete without these two experiences, which served to bind the family even more closely into a unit.

On a recent trip President McKay learned that a daughter-in-law of his had never been to the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Nothing would do but that they delay their own crowded schedule to see that she was given the great joy of seeing that spectacular sight. The McKays derive sincere pleasure out of giving pleasure to others. On this trip, also, President McKay spent twenty minutes feeding the squirrels with some of the buns left over from their lunch.

One sure way, the old adage runs, of telling whether a man is good is to see how animals react to him. Animals love President McKay, and he loves them. It is nothing for President McKay to leave his home in Salt Lake City, drive to Huntsville, help break a colt, and be back at the office by opening time. His love for animals makes his training of them easy and enjoyable.

The family parties are intensified in interest because of the musical ability of the family. The McKays have had from the early days of childhood the ability to entertain themselves. Lawrence plays the violin; Llewelyn the clarinet; and Lou Jean the piano. On rare occasions when Lou Jean is not able to be present, "Mama Ray" herself will play the accompaniment for the music. "Papa Dade" is a storyteller of the greatest ability. His stories usually have a purpose as well as being entertaining. His dancing eyes hold his audience spellbound. A

(Concluded on page 683)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

The Nickel Plate Road, which long has had the pleasure of serving members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, extends most cordial greetings to President David O. McKay on the occasion of his 80th birthday anniversary.

NICKEL PLATE ROAD

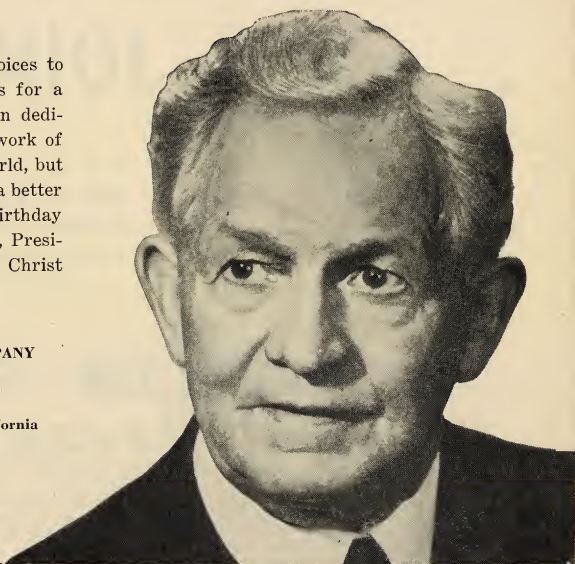
TERMINAL TOWER • CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

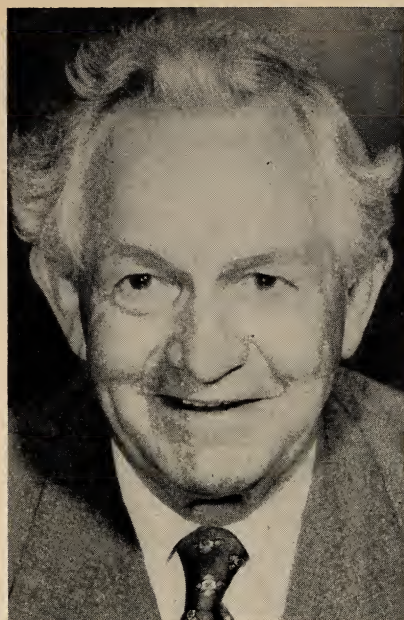
We should like to add our voices to the multitude of good wishes for a leader whose years have been dedicated not only to the sacred work of his Church throughout the world, but to the task of helping to build a better land in which to live. Warm birthday greetings to David O. McKay, President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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At Home with the McKays

(Continued from page 680)

sister-in-law once said that she had never met anyone else who had the rare ability that President McKay has of tying his entire audience to him—from the oldest to the youngest.

Always at the family gatherings one grandchild is on President McKay's lap, more frequently there are two. He is especially careful to see that each of his children and grandchildren shares equally in his demonstrated affection and favors. At the family get-togethers each is supposed to do something—great or small—to add to the enjoyment of all. And "Papa Dade" watches with graciousness and appreciation as each does his bit.

This characteristic of giving full credit to everyone for what he can do stems from his basic belief in the worth of the human soul. In this thorough respect he is a most consistent person. But he is consistent in every way with that which he preaches—a quality that has persisted through the years.

In their religious association the McKays have always been a unit. Whenever the children gave their two and a half minute talks or recited or played in the various organizations of the Church, President and Sister McKay were there to give support and to encourage the activity. When the ward teachers came, President McKay called his family in to listen to the message. His respect for the ward teachers is part of his respect for the authority of the priesthood in addition to his respect for all mankind. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it," (Prov. 22:6) has indeed proved true in the McKay household.

The consistency in President and Sister McKay's family life has proved itself in the rearing in love and happiness of an honorable and respected family.

SEPTEMBER

By Alma Robison Higbee

Down the windrows of autumn
A golden sickle
Is swinging wide and high,
And with paintbrush of russet
September is etching
Wings on the pavonine sky.
SEPTEMBER 1953

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A TRIBUTE TO JAMES E. MOSS

by Adam S. Bennion

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

SEPTEMBER 4, 1953 James E. Moss will be seventy-eight years young. Here is a man who will never be old—for the spirit of youth pervades every fibre of his being.

Chronological events never can tell the story of this good man. It was the soul of the man reaching out to inspire others that made him unique. He knew no schedule of hours—he worked by no pattern of performance—he lived his life out to the full in the interest of worthy causes and people.

I came to Granite [Granite High School, Salt Lake City, Utah,] after he had impressed his personality upon that high school. I caught at first hand the affection in which he was held by his students. Their fondness for him was little short of adoration.

Solid in his foundations, big of heart, warm in his devotion to both learning and living, he led a great group of youngsters into the true spirit of democratic performance.

No boy was too brilliant for his understanding; no boy was too backward for his sympathy and inspiration.

Utah owes James E. Moss a great debt of gratitude for what he did for youth, for what he did for them intellectually, socially, athletically, spiritually, and morally. His preachments were couched in kindness and in an urge to worthy action.

And singularly, he has continued to work always with youth at that most impressionable age of adolescence. He helped thousands of youths "try life on" to find it good, and then urged them on to the achievement of their loftiest ideals.

Men like "Jimmie" Moss come once in a generation—fortunately, they live forever.

* * * * *

Elder Moss was born in a log cabin September 4, 1875 at Grassvalley, Utah. He came to Salt Lake City at the age of five and one-half. In 1893 he began his teaching career at Holladay. From then on several generations of students have learned by his precept and example. It was in 1901, while teaching at Granite High School, that he started building men by coaching boys in athletics.

OLD SHAGGYMANE

(Continued from page 649)

extending north and south in uncountable numbers.

Equipped with a pair of horns, short, but stout enough to rip the tough prairie sod apart for a wallow, anchored in a skull that can turn a bullet, Old Shaggymane is a formidable opponent for any animal of the wilds and a dangerous beast even for man to face.

Buffalo bulls on the rampage have been known to toss a whole wolf pack, disembowel a horse, and even carry horse and rider along for a hundred yards before hurling them to the ground. Even a grizzly bear would hesitate attacking a buffalo cow defending her calf. No creature living could stand before the trampling, plunging juggernaut of a wild buffalo herd on the stampede.

Only the "iron horse," relentlessly snorting and puffing its way westward, bringing its men with guns

and barbed wire and the implements of settlement, was finally to prove too great an antagonist even for the shaggy behemoths who stolidly resisted its encroachment over the broad plains.

Inevitably the massive herds were pushed ever farther into the west—over the Mississippi and Missouri—across the grassy sea of the Great Plains—and eventually into oblivion, or just about.

But Old Shaggymane didn't give up his wild monarchy without a magnificent fight. He met the invasion literally head-on, pushing down the new telegraph poles, standing belligerently on the tracks and stopping trains, charging between cars to break the couplings.

It was not enough. The laying of the transcontinental railway spelled the doom of the westward-driven herds.

A systematic slaughter of the wild
THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

buffalo, instigated by railroad owners, brought about swift annihilation of his courageous kind.

Colonel William Cody earned his sobriquet of "Buffalo Bill"—besides the handsome salary of five hundred dollars a month, which the Kansas Pacific Railroad paid him—for his exploits in ridding the railroad right-of-way of buffalo that swarmed over the trackless prairie.

Cody, with his gang of professional exterminators, soon decimated the wild herds, incidentally supplying the railroad crews with fresh meat daily.

If this measure of wholesale slaying could be called necessary for the progressive march of civilization, other wanton slaughter of the great beasts could not.

Estimates say that not one-third of the buffalo killed on the western prairies were ever utilized. Some greedy hunters slew bison only for the tongues, considered a delicacy, leaving the rest to the wolves.

Millions of the animals were slain for their valuable hides alone, which increased in value as their numbers diminished. Mile after mile of the hides, heaped haystack high, were to be seen beside the railroad, awaiting shipment, during the peak years of the unprecedented massacre of the prairie monarchs.

Only an estimated fifteen million of the lordly beasts remained in all America by 1865; and in that single year a million more were slaughtered. By 1872, half of the remainder were gone—the peak of the kill.

How rapid was the decline of the buffalo, once the white man started exploiting him, is shown in one instance. In the spring of 1880 a tannery was established at Fort Griffin, Texas. During the single season that the tannery remained in operation the bison herds had virtually vanished.

Montana's biggest herd—ten thousand animals—was exterminated in a few days, in 1883. Sharpshooters, guarding water holes, through the burning heat of summer hours and by firelight at night, waited until the thirst-maddened beasts braved even bullets for water, then shot down the milling, plunging brutes until the last great herd was totally destroyed. For the grassy ranges could not support valuable beef cattle and grazing buffalo herds both.

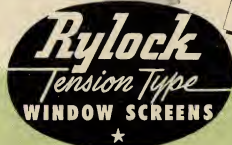
It became the sporting fashion for

(Continued on following page)

SEPTEMBER 1953

\$3.27 for (1'-6" x 3'-0")	\$3.51 for (2'-0" x 2'-10")	\$3.96 for (2'-4" x 3'-2")
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Old Shaggymane

(Continued from preceding page)

wealthy big game hunters to vie for the doubtful honor of "killing the last buffalo." Well-outfitted parties penetrated into the last strongholds of the scattered small herds, much as old-world hunters set out on safaris into darkest Africa for elephant hunting.

Such a hunt was staged for Grand Duke Alexis of Russia by General Duke Sheridan, with General Custer and Colonel Cody, a troop of U.S. cavalry, and a band of Indian scouts to round up some isolated survivors of free-ranging bison for the sport. A buffalo barbecue followed.

Soon there were left, over the rolling stretches of the prairie, in the mountain valleys, along the beaten trails of the western wilds, only the bleaching bones of the monarchs who had once marched and thundered over the wastelands by the countless millions. Acres and acres of the sun-whitened bones and skulls of the beasts littered hill and prairie, and even these were to serve a purpose.

The bones of the buffalo had a high market value for use in sugar refining and for fertilizer. Many an early-day settler paid his first land fee from profits he had made on buffalo bones cleared from his claim. At least one fortune is recorded by a dealer who shipped three thousand carloads of the bones to Kansas City at prevailing high prices.

Skull Valley, on the western Utah desert, was so named by pioneer explorers, who found the region covered with bleaching buffalo skeletons; though the destroyers of the bison, in this case, were the natural elements; making of the whole area a vast bison burial ground.

The accounts of Jim Bridger and other frontier trappers tell of the severity of the winter of 1830-31. Immense piles of bleached buffalo skeletons found in the Bear River Valley and the Uintah Basin indicate that unusually deep snows wiped out the bison in Utah.

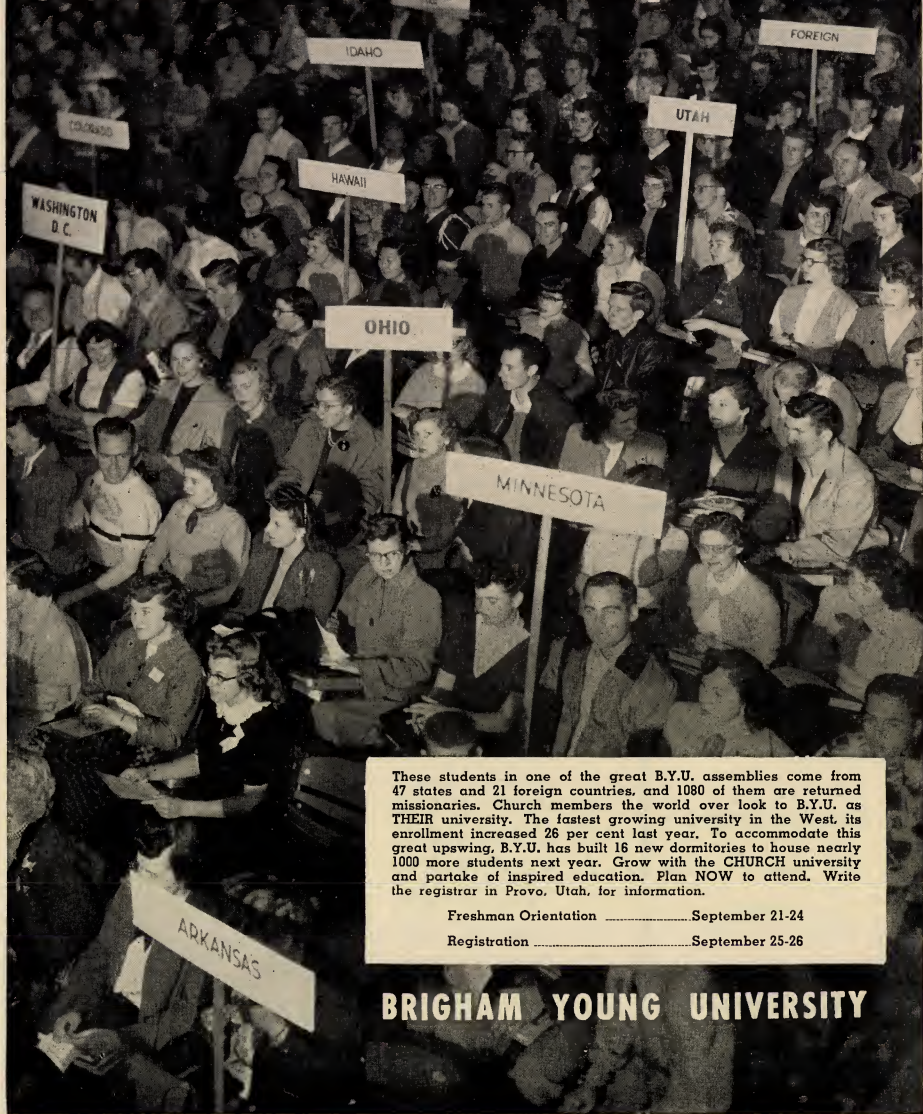
Bridger recounts that during this period the killing snows would "deep freeze" the animals, so their meat would be good for the next spring's use.

Although Utah was never host to the vast herds of buffalo such as the Great Plains knew, old Indian tales relate that Tooele County, west of

(Continued on page 688)

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OLD SHAGGYMANE

(Continued from page 686)

Salt Lake City, was at one time a buffalo paradise; and that the Jordan River, which empties into Great Salt Lake, was a favorite buffalo wallow, where the huge beasts rolled in the ooze, covering their shaggy hair with mud as protection against insect swarms. The great salt licks of the inland seashore also provided the salt these snorting monsters craved.

Mountaineers of that early time told of another, less numerous breed, the mountain or "woods" bison, which differed from his brother of the plains, being generally of smaller stature and of a darker color; a variety which is now considered to be extinct.

The Smithsonian Institute, seeking to authenticate descriptions of the mountain buffalo, as given by old-time trappers and explorers, was unable to locate a single remaining specimen of this type; and the record of this rarer breed of bison must remain incomplete.

Utah lovers of the Old West, in which the buffalo had played so colorful a part, were among the first to foresee total destruction of the wild breed unless protective measures were taken to preserve a remnant of the fast-dwindling herds.

Private interests transported a cattle-boat load of the big bison over to Antelope Island in Great Salt Lake.

(Continued on page 690)

To Begin Again

Richard L. Evans

SOMETIMES we hear someone say, "I wish I could begin again; I wish I could live life over with what I know now." It is not an uncommon wish, but time cannot be turned back, and in life no road can be retraveled just as once it was. We can't begin back where we were. But we can begin where we are, and in an eternity of existence, this is a reassuring fact. There is virtually nothing that a man cannot turn away from if he really wants to. There is virtually nothing that he cannot improve. There is virtually no habit that he cannot give up if he will sincerely set his will to do so and will sincerely seek and accept help—the help of others and of his Father in heaven. But our interest in being better, in improving upon the past, in turning to new ways, in leaving habits behind, sometimes seems to be a wish without a will, a wish with resignation, a wish that assumes that about all we can do is wish that we could go back. But there is no one who cannot be better by turning toward the ways he should walk, however far he may have walked the wrong way. Without the blessed principle and possibility of repentance there would be little incentive left for any of us—for all of us need it, whether we know it or not. And though we cannot go back and begin where we were, we can begin where we are, wherever we are. No one is justified in assuming that a habit that has hold of him is unbreakable or that a poor past performance cannot be improved. The wish to begin again, the wish to live life over with what we know now, is a wish that cannot be realized. There is no turning back to any point or period of the past. But if we can't begin where we were, we can begin where we are, and the memory of a wrong road is blessedly dimmed by the reality of being on the right road.

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Old Shaggymane

(Continued from page 688)

A small herd of the animals still ranges the grassy isle in comparative freedom. One or two are slain each year to regulate the size of the herd. Of late years another small herd of buffalo, numbering some fifty animals, has been built up in the Basin area southeast of Castlegate in Utah. The animals are left to roam at will, affording the tourist who is fortunate enough to sight the roving herd, a glimpse of the Old West as it was in the past.

A Pend d'Oreille Indian, Walking Coyote, was perhaps the first to come to the rescue of his old friend, the buffalo, when it seemed that the last of the shaggy monarchs must soon follow the last of their kind who had vanished along the sun-down trail.

He roped two male and two female calves, and from that beginning started the great Allard-Pancho and Conrad herds of Montana. Over the west, other appreciative persons followed suit, establishing small protected herds; notable being the herd saved through the efforts of the wife of Colonel Charles Goodnight, early-day cattle king of the Texas Panhandle. This herd was later sold to other western ranchers.

In 1905, the American Bison Society, founded by Theodore Roosevelt and others, raised fifty thousand dollars to create the Montana National Range. Today, other fine herds are to be found in Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Yellowstone Park.

What is called the largest private buffalo herd in the world, numbering some 350 animals, has been built up from government ranges, at Independence, Kansas.

No account of the western bison would be complete without mention of the most remarkable story of all—that of the last roundup of some four hundred wild Texas buffalo, in 1906, by a picked crew of rough-riding cowboys, under the direction of "Buffalo" Jones and "Uncle" Jimmy Owens—the latter a well-known early-time rancher of Kanab, Utah. These intrepid riders proposed to drive the wholly unmanageable beasts a full thousand miles, over the Panhandle of Texas, all of New Mexico, and the most forbidding country of Arizona, to the craggy hills near Prescott. The animals had been

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

purchased from the Goodnight ranch in Texas.

There was purpose behind this dangerous and seemingly foolhardy enterprise. The promoters of the drive were, in all good faith, planning to establish the first ranch of its kind in the world for the breeding of an entirely new type of beef cattle—a cross-breed of range cattle and its hardier cousin, the buffalo; the resulting hybrid to be known as "cattalo." The meat of this new kind of cow, it was anticipated, would command premium prices.

Unfortunately the scheme was a failure, although "cattalo" are now being raised successfully in Canada and some parts of the western United States.

This ambitious venture did, however, introduce bison into Arizona, and from that nucleus a fine herd of free-ranging animals has been preserved in the House Rock Valley on the north rim of the Grand Canyon, just below the Utah-Arizona line—one of the last few herds in North America that is not under fence.

Go Forward

(Concluded from page 634)

a land of promise, and whatsoever people shall possess it shall serve the God of this land, Jesus Christ, or they shall be swept off.

Scouting encourages boys and men to serve their God faithfully. We feel that Sir Baden-Powell had wisdom beyond that of this earth when he conceived this great scouting movement.

We rejoice in the growth of scouting—its noble ideals and concepts and all that it stands for. We march forward gratefully with you, our fellow Scouts and scouters, on liberty's team. May the Almighty strengthen us in our efforts to:

Go forward with you in building strong community foundation,
Go forward with you in fostering world brotherhood,
Go forward with you in the faith of our fathers.

May he go forward with us too in our consecrated effort to demonstrate to the world that men under God may live closely together in harmony, peace, and liberty.

I ask this fervently, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

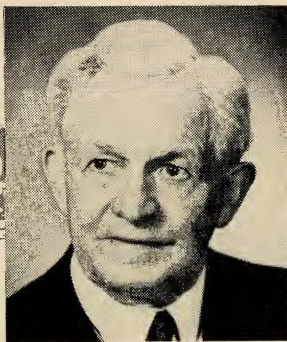
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The Salt Lake Tribune

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To Blush Unseen

(Continued from page 648)

"I don't see how I can get out of it now. Miss Afton's gone to get her bag, and we were coming right over." John sounded bewildered. "I thought you'd be tickled to death."

"Just like a man! Mary told herself. Aloud, she groaned, "Try to give me fifteen minutes."

She hung up the receiver and snatched at the fluffy pile of curtains with the same motion. Her anguished summons brought Pearl and Price on the run.

"Get this room straightened up! Now!" she told them with such desperation that they flew into action without a word.

Rugs unrolled across the floor, curtains flew onto rods, furniture wheeled and charged into position; ornaments and books appeared on shelves like magician's illusions. The living room was straight with minutes to spare.

Mary ran upstairs. She dashed cold water on her face and wiped at it with a towel as she re-planned lunch. Fruit cup, peas and chicken patties out of the blessed freezer . . . there was just enough ice cream. . . John would have to entertain Miss Afton while she and Pearl got out the best silver and china. Mary ran a comb through her hair on the way to her room. She had reached out to a hanger in her clothes closet when the racket broke out in the living room—

It was pandemonium in technicolor. Janey's red coat streaked with a violent purple that had puddled the freshly cleaned beige rug; Janey's mouth producing loud solicitous chirps—Jack's hand dropping a jar of a poisonous green mix as he tried to detach the half-grown cat struggling to stay on top of his outraged head—Jack's lungs emitting terrified squawks—Sugar, the spaniel, exploding in excited barking at the cat.

When the door opened, the cat made a frenzied leap to the nearest curtain and climbed, leaving a trail of green and purple paw prints. Sugar raced through the puddles of color and leaped against the wall in pursuit to make that surface look like a surrealist's masterpiece.

"I knew you'd want me to bring the poor little lost thing home," Janey explained at the top of her lungs. "Here, kitty, kitty! Here,

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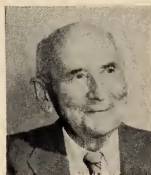
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kitty, kitty! Sugar, you are a *bad dog!* Get down!"

"I brought my finger paint to show you, Mum," Jack howled. "And that old cat made me spill it!"

Mary comforted her sobbing young-est. "Janey, get that cat down, do you hear me?"

"May I keep it, Mother?" Janey danced with excitement. "Mother, may I? Please, Mother!"

Over Jack's head, Mary saw John and Rose Afton standing in the doorway. Suddenly she didn't care that the place was a madhouse. Let Rose Afton see them just as they were.

"Hi!" she yelled above the noise. "Come on in. This isn't a private riot. Anybody can join! John, take Miss Afton up to the spare room. When you hear a deep restful silence, come down to lunch."

Pearl had probably forgotten to hang guest towels in the bath room. And Pearl couldn't have had time to get Jack's electric train out of the upstairs hall. But Mary didn't care what Rose Afton thought. She was through putting her best foot forward—unless that suited her natural gait.

She didn't scold the children. She helped them get Sugar outside and then rescued and soothed the cat. She shucked Janey out of her paint-smearred clothes and sent her to wash in the basement shower. Then she and Jack plastered peanut butter sandwiches and poured chocolate milk for a back yard picnic. She sent Pearl and Price to join the children. She dropped throw rugs over the puddles of paint and thanked her stars that it would wash up later.

In the kitchen she set a can of home preserved raspberries to boiling and stirred in small, sweet dumplings. The mouthwatering smell brought Rose Afton and John into the big, homely room. Mary handed the salad bowl to the singer.

"Hello, Miss Afton. Here, you mix the salad while I snatch at loose ends—mostly wits!"

The casserole came bubbling out of the oven and tomato juice frothy out of the refrigerator. The distinguished guest pattered with garlic salt and greens and celery seed. At the kitchen table, cheerful with red-checked cloth and blooming geranium, they ate hugely. After her third

(Continued on following page)

SEPTEMBER 1953



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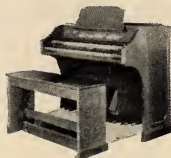
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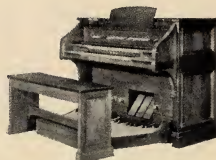
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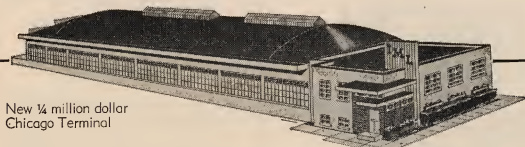
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To Blush Unseen

(Continued from preceding page)

helping of raspberry dumpling and cream, Rose Afton groaned and laid down her spoon.

"You must have second sight, Mrs. Connor. Only why don't I call you Mary? How did you know I couldn't endure another company luncheon?" She shuddered dramatically. "Dressed up women talking with such horrible politeness over the best china and silver; eating fruit cup, chicken patties, frozen peas, and ice cream . . . ugh!"

"Have some more dumplings, Miss Afton," John urged. "I'm going to finish it, then. I think Mary was a bit anxious; afraid you wouldn't like our everyday fare."

"I wish I were lucky enough to have everyday fare like this," Rose Afton said. "Only I'd get disgustingly fat."

Janey and Jack came in then to say that Sugar and the cat had decided to be friends. Mary was proud of their unflustered politeness as they said good-bye to Rose Afton and distributed parental kisses. But when they had gone off to school, she was not prepared for the singer's next words.

"You're a lucky woman, Mary Connor," Rose Afton said, "and I envy you."

"Envy me?" Mary blinked. This famous woman with her beautiful voice? Well-known all over the country? Who brought pleasure to thousands with her gift of music?

"I pay a high price for my career," the singer said slowly. "Half the year I'm away from my husband. Other women—oh, very well-trained and highly recommended—keep my house and rear my child." The silence in the homely room was broken only by the wheeze of the old clock and the purring of the kitten that had climbed to Mary's lap. "I suppose I wouldn't live my life differently if I could. But you have a better life, Mary."

"Mary once thought she would be a singer," John began.

"Why, you haven't said a word about it!" Rose Afton pushed back her chair energetically and started to the sink with a handful of dishes. "When we get the kitchen work done, Mary, you shall sing for me. If you're good enough I could recommend a teacher, and I know people—"

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

"Hey, don't start my Mary off on a career, now!" John reached for his wife's hand. "You just said you'd rather be a small town housewife and mother yourself."

"But talent mustn't be wasted. Too much is lost as it is through lack of opportunity." Rose Afton was earnest.

"Many a flower is born to blush unseen," Mary quoted smilingly.

No matter what Rose Afton might say about her voice, Mary knew her singing would continue to be the mainstay of the ward choir. And she knew, too, that she no longer wished it otherwise.

"Only this flower doesn't 'waste its sweetness on the desert air,'" John capped the quotation, his hand tightening on hers.

That earlier decision had been the right one, Mary knew. She wouldn't be envious of the Rose Aftons again. Indeed she must be careful that she wasn't smug about having so much more than they.

"Born to blush unseen . . ." she said, "and so glad of it."

Albert E. Bowen

(Continued from page 652)

homesteading with his eldest brother, John, in Star Valley, Wyoming. For that entire season their diet was mostly venison.

During his youth, an incessant yearning for knowledge had grown within him, nurtured by his mother and others, and as he neared the age of twenty, after a family council, he went to Logan to attend Brigham Young College. There he discovered that he had to take his high school subjects as well as his college courses. He received his bachelor of arts degree in 1902, after filling his college years with part-time teaching assignments as well as learning.

He met Aletha E. Reeder of Hyde Park, Utah, whom he married immediately after graduation. Soon there was a mission call for him, and his young wife, with her small earnings, helped keep him in Germany and Switzerland. Upon his return from missionary service, he joined the faculty of Brigham Young College, in Logan.

Tragedy struck in 1905 when Sister Bowen died following the birth of

(Continued on following page)

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Photo, courtesy Deseret News-Telegram

Albert E. Bowen

(Continued from preceding page)

twin sons—sons who were to be reared and to fulfil honorable missions in the same area where their father had served. Eleven years after the death of his first wife, Elder Bowen married Emma Lucy Gates, a great artist in her own right. Meanwhile, in 1911, he had been graduated from the law school of the University of Chicago with the degree of doctor of jurisprudence.

He served as superintendent of the Cache Stake Sunday School for four years before coming to Salt Lake City to become a law partner of J. Reuben Clark, Jr., and Preston D. Richards.

He taught some of the religion classes and served some twelve years as a member of the general board of the Deseret Sunday School Union. He was chairman of that board's important missionary training committee.

In January 1935 he was called as general superintendent of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association. He was the first elder not a member of the General Authorities of the Church, to head a Church auxiliary organization. He was sustained at the April 1937 general conference as a member of the Council of the Twelve. Here he traveled much, as his duties took him to the stakes and the North American missions of the Church.

At the beginning of World War II Elder Bowen, accompanied by Elder Harold B. Lee of the Council of the Twelve, and by Elder Hugh B. Brown visited military installations and camps all over the country and exercised a great influence in the initial phases of getting the Church servicemen's program underway.

Until several years ago Brother Bowen was a member of the Church expenditures committee and gave valuable financial and legal advice to the Church in all of its financial matters and in the building of new chapels. He was a member of the Church auditing committee.

He was one of the champions of the Church welfare program and had long been one of the advisers to the plan. He had given untiring service to the Church as a member of the Church board of education, as a trustee of Brigham Young University.

(Concluded on page 698)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

Our Salute

to

President David O. McKay

a great American and an inspiring
exemplar of the well-balanced life

from all of us at
Utah Oil Refining Company



Our sincere best wishes to

President

David O. McKay

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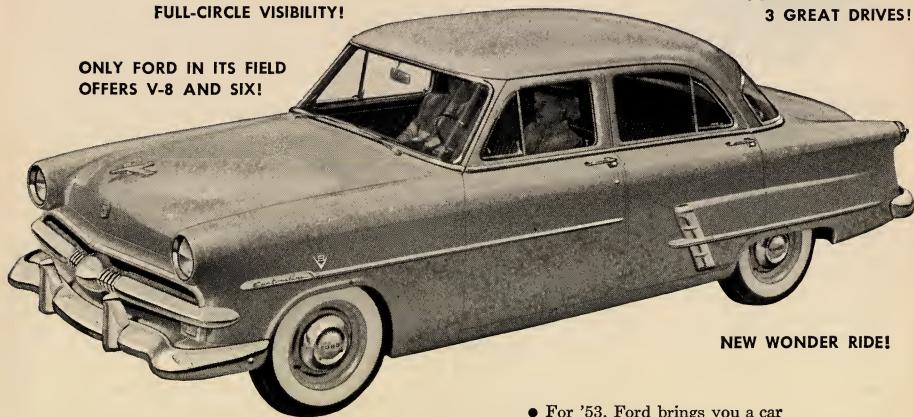
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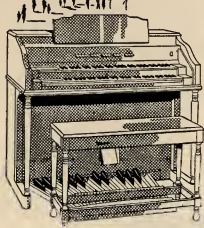
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ALBERT E. BOWEN

(Concluded from page 696)

sity, and as a director and officer of several institutions with which the Church is identified.

Brother Bowen's life span reached from October 31, 1875 to July 15, 1953—a lifetime in which he spent his time and talents well to strengthen

the position of the restored Church in all the earth. His death was preceded by an illness of more than a year. His wife, Emma Lucy Gates Bowen, died in April 1951. Surviving him are two sons and six grandchildren.

THE CHURCH GROWS

(Continued from page 643)

report shows that in the library are 88,351 rolls, which is equal to some 128,812,300 pages or 429,374 volumes of three hundred pages each.

High library attendance is an indication of the enthusiasm for this work. Another indication is the number of new cards being added to the temple index file—408,461 in 1951 and 429,950 in 1952.

In all of these and in countless other unnamed activities the President of the Church must of necessity play a leading role, and one often wonders if a person less vigorous and less blessed than President McKay could possibly stand up under the demands of his office.

President McKay was not unaware of the nature of the demands made upon the President of the Church when he received his call, as he had already served in the First Presidency for seventeen years. He was sustained as a counselor to President Heber J. Grant in 1934 and again as a counselor to President George Albert Smith in 1945. But the demands made upon the President are increasing every year with the increased membership in the Church.

In the days of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young probably almost every member of the Church could know the President and talk to him personally. Today, since there are well over a million members, it is physically impossible for the President to concern himself with many of the individual problems, although he does this whenever his time and strength allow.

Almost every moment of the President's waking hours is filled with Church duties. In the twenty-nine months that he has been in his high office President McKay has filled more than two hundred major speaking assignments in general conferences, stake conferences, luncheons, youth conferences, banquets, old

folks' outings, testimonials, parties, receptions, conventions, funerals, firesides, missionary meetings, priesthood meetings, auxiliary conference meetings, Sunday Schools, Junior Sunday Schools, ground-breaking ceremonies, celebrations of various types, baccalaureates, and commencements. Everywhere he goes he is called upon to speak, and with President McKay every speech is important enough to warrant preparation. This is attested to by the publication by THE IMPROVEMENT ERA of *Gospel Ideals*, selections from the discourses of President David O. McKay, a book of approximately six hundred pages, filled with the choicest utterances of the President.

Since becoming President he has made two trips to Europe, three trips to Washington, D. C., one to the Northwest, two to Arizona, one to Texas, and several to California. During the first year of his presidency he traveled well over fifty thousand miles. The second year and a half has been marked by even more frequent journeys. Two of these visits to the national capital were at the request of government officials to attend important conferences. The third was to attend the inauguration of President Eisenhower, and also of Ezra Taft Benson, who became Secretary of Agriculture in the President's Cabinet with the full approval and commendation of the First Presidency.

His first trip to Europe was for the purpose of visiting the missions and selecting sites for temples in England and on the continent. On his second trip, which he has just completed, he broke ground for the temple in Switzerland and dedicated the new temple site near London.

In Los Angeles in July he addressed the annual meeting of the Boy Scouts of America and was given a

(Continued on page 700)

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

It is difficult to write a definition of the American way.
But it is easy to find good examples. Here is one:



is less than enough

Forty years ago a fellow who could do a little "figuring" could get by. But that simple old world has complicated itself so rapidly that the same fellow today would be mathematically illiterate.

As a nation, we're not quite illiterate in mathematics—but we're not in good shape either.

For some reason, our youngsters have been shying away from math in junior high school and in high school. The United States Office of Education reports that only 20 per cent of high-school students are taking mathematics.

But research is the pioneer land of America's future, and mathematics is the road map of research. If something isn't done soon, our country may find itself feeling its way blindly through a supersonic, atomic miracle age, mathematically unarmed for either peace or war.

Teachers, business leaders, military men got pretty alarmed about this loss of mathematical brains. And so, frankly, did General Electric.

Recently we did something about it. We printed a booklet for boys and girls in junior and senior

high school called "Why Study Math?" It points out the advantage of getting your math young, proves that you can learn math even though you're not a "genius," demonstrates that math is valuable although a youngster may not intend to become a scientist.

We printed half a million of these booklets here in Schenectady, turned our back for a couple of months, and found that the whole 500,000 were gone. Now we're rushing a second half million for school opening in the fall.

Meanwhile the author of "Why Study Math?" is working on a sequel, "Math at General Electric," which explains how mathematics is used at General Electric in 22 different kinds of jobs.

General Electric is interested in helping America's young brains think their way toward successful careers. We don't expect to sell a single turbine or lamp with these two booklets. But perhaps we may help light up the road for a boy who, without mathematics, might miss his fair chance to be an Edison or a Steinmetz.

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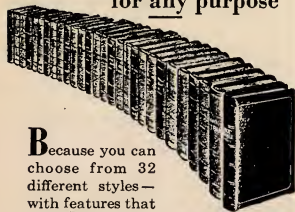
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THE CHURCH GROWS

(Continued from page 698)
special citation and the silver buffalo, highest award of that organization, for his outstanding service to youth. (See August ERA.) Further recognitions that have come to him were honorary degrees awarded him in 1951—doctor of letters from the Uni-

versity of Utah and Temple University, and doctor of humanities from Brigham Young University.

Since he has become President, President McKay has delivered some twenty-five funeral sermons. He has made thirty-six dedicatory prayers in

(Continued on page 702)

On Coming Close...

Richard L. Evans

WE REMEMBER as youngsters that there was much magic in a magnet—and carefully we would push nails toward it, or other objects of iron, to see at just what point the magnet's pull would snap the approaching object to itself. But the moment we discovered that point, it was too late to pull back. We found that we had to stop somewhere short of the magnet's effective field if we didn't want the pull to be completed. There are other things in life like that. Sometimes we make unsafe assumptions. We may assume that we are strong enough to come close to something and still pull away from it when we want to. We may assume that we are strong enough to swim against the undertow, that we are strong enough to free ourselves from the whirlpool. Sometimes we seem to be even as the foolish child who pushes his finger toward the whirling fan blade. What makes him do it we do not always know—curiosity? ignorance? sheer foolishness? the spirit of adventure? Call it what we will, the fact remains that if a person proceeds too far in any dangerous direction he is going to find the point at which he is too close. We may assume that we can sample forbidden things with safety, that we can expose ourselves to danger and not be in danger, that we can approach unsafe situations and draw away when we want to; but history and experience and a long list of disappointed people have proved that it simply isn't so. It simply isn't safe to try to find the last point which a person can approach and still save himself. It isn't safe to assume that we can play with an evil without paying a bitter price, or that we can live carelessly without being called to account. The cliff we don't want to fall over we shouldn't approach the edge of, for we never know when the edge will crumble. We never know when an accident will happen, but we do know that it is less likely to happen if we don't crowd danger too closely, if we "keep out of tight places." What should be avoided should be altogether avoided. What we don't want to happen, we shouldn't invite to happen. It simply isn't safe to tempt temptation.

"The Spoken Word" FROM TEMPLE SQUARE
PRESENTED OVER KSL AND THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING
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Four Score Years... *With sincere pleasure and admiration, the Rio Grande joins the members of his Church and the American community in congratulating PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY on his 80th Birthday Anniversary.*

The Rio Grande shares with President McKay a growing satisfaction in the sound growth of the mountain empire. The ideals of religious freedom, community devotion, and hard work on which the Utah Commonwealth was founded, are today reflected in a community pride and a Church known and respected the world around. President McKay's inspiration and leadership provide members of his Church and the mountain area with a firm foundation in the future.

and Three...

The Rio Grande, built to serve the people of Colorado and Utah 83 years ago, shares in this belief. It, too, enjoys with President McKay, a vigorous determination that this area shall continue to grow and prosper.





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Utah State congratulates President McKay on his 80th birthday . . . thanks him for his support of education . . . acknowledges his tribute that USAC considers the fostering of the democratic way of life its main function.

"Education . . . our greatest need . . . a character-builder . . . state-builder" . . . said President McKay.

Our L.D.S. Institute of Religion encourages students to weave into all their activities the good way of life President McKay represents.

* * * * *

1953-54 . . . construction of a new agricultural science building . . . new men's dormitory . . . enjoyment of a new student Union . . . ways in which Utah State, with the help of State and National leaders, invests in education — a free people's best investment.

Fall Registration

SEPTEMBER 24-26

**Utah State
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Logan, Utah

The Church Grows

(Continued from page 700)

nine states and two foreign countries. These included the dedication of the Mormon Pioneer Memorial Bridge, thirty stake and ward chapels and branch buildings, the nurses' home at the L.D.S. Hospital, site for the California mission home on the Los Angeles temple grounds, the Los Angeles temple grounds, Primary Children's Hospital, and the Joseph Standing monument. Dedications have been made in Utah, Texas, California, Oregon, Idaho, Georgia, Arizona, Nevada, Nebraska, Germany, and Scotland.

During this time three new Apostles have been selected, a new Presiding Bishopric, and four assistants to the Council of the Twelve. A new general presidency of the Primary has been named, and many mission presidents have been selected. Also, two temple presidents have been set apart.

In addition to all of this, President McKay must be concerned with the day-to-day business of running the Church, a job which has grown to enormous proportions. He has a constant stream of people who would like to see him, members of the



Architect's drawing of the East Ensign Ward Chapel.

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sudden, you're a
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THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

Church and non-members. He sees the ones he can, and the others are of necessity turned away disappointed.

The list of "important and interesting" people kept by his secretary, Clare Middlemiss, since he became President, runs well over one hundred, from more than two dozen different countries. The names of former President Harry S. Truman, the Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower, Adlai E. Stevenson, and the late Robert A. Taft are on the list. But although all of the President's time could be taken up by "important" people, in his sincere, gracious, and lovable way, he never passes up an opportunity to greet a group of Primary children or to speak to a Junior Sunday School.

And with all of this President McKay is president of the Beneficial Life Insurance Company, Utah First National Bank, Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company, Heber J. Grant and Company, Zion's Securities Corporation, Layton Sugar Company, Z.C.M.I., Hotel Utah, Utah Home Fire Insurance Company, Utah-Idaho Sugar Company. He is senior editor of THE IMPROVEMENT ERA, a member of the executive board of the Great Salt Lake Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and honorary member of the Salt Lake Rotary Club. All of these organizations and institutions take some of his time.

PRESIDENT David O. McKay is the marvel of all who know him. Although he has had two brief periods of sickness since he became President, he is in good health. He stands tall and straight. His eyes are bright, his handshake firm, and his smile contagious. He is loved, respected, and revered by all who know him, and throughout the Church, unnumbered prayers for our beloved leader and prophet are uttered daily. May our Father in heaven permit him to guide the Church forward for many years to come.



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Melchizedek

Birthday Greetings

GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT DAVID O. McKAY:

YOUR brethren of the Council of the Twelve, on this the eightieth anniversary of your birth, express to you their united love and fellowship. We hope the Lord will bless you with health and strength that you may accomplish all the work that is, or may be, assigned to you in your high and holy calling.

We assure you that our faith and prayers ascend daily in your behalf.

May the Lord bless and protect you, we humbly pray,

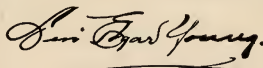
Sincerely your brethren,
THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE



President

IT is with reverent thought and deep feeling that we express to you our best wishes for a happy birthday. In your life, you have gone forth in humble sincerity, making an appeal to the hearts of men with words inspired of God. The rich and the poor, the great and lowly have come out of darkness into light as you have spoken. Human conduct has been won to better issues, which has meant the cultivation of righteousness in the life and activity of mankind. You have truly shown how the divine revelation of the Savior has opened the way to God. And another truth that you have given us is that there is no other line of influence in this world except in behalf of ideals. Your perfect condition of health and great faith have given you the desire to do God's will. We will always remember that the main-spring of your power lies in the nobility of your aims, the fervor of your convictions, and in the stainless rectitude of your life. By these you have gained the confidence and love of the people and all who have come to know you. May your day be happy as you look to the future.

Your brethren,
THE FIRST COUNCIL OF THE SEVENTY



President

Melchizedek Priesthood Quorum and Group Projects

QUORUM PROJECTS

MEMBERS of Melchizedek Priesthood quorums—elders, seventies, and high priests—are subject to the call of the bishops of the respective wards for the production of materials to be used in the Church welfare program.

In addition to assisting with the welfare program, it is advisable for Melchizedek Priesthood quorums to carry forward quorum projects designed specifically to provide activity for quorum members and in some instances to supply quorum funds. These projects are to be supervised by the quorum presidencies. The following instructions regarding quorum fund-raising

projects are quoted from the *Melchizedek Priesthood Handbook*, page 79:

In addition to assisting in the bishop's storehouse program, priesthood quorums may establish projects for the purpose of raising funds with which to carry on their rehabilitation work and to carry on quorum administrative and ecclesiastical work such as maintaining missionaries in the field. Such projects will help build up priesthood quorums.

There are numerous non-fund raising projects which would supply an almost unlimited amount of activity for quorum members, resulting in their personal development as well as in the strengthening of the quorums, if these projects were put into operation; for example, the non-fund raising projects might include the providing of

transportation for members of the quorum and their families, or for widows of quorum members, to stake conferences, to quorum socials, and to ward meetings if these individuals live in distant places. Also, making of the priesthood quorum lesson material a home reading course is a good project. The athletic program of the Melchizedek Priesthood should be included among the projects of quorums. Likewise, the quorum presidencies are advised to teach all of the men in their particular quorums the proper way to perform the priesthood ordinances, such as blessing the sick and performing baptisms and confirmations. Genealogical and temple projects are worthy undertakings for priesthood quorums.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

Priesthood

Some of the members, who are otherwise in good standing, have not had their wives and children sealed to them. The quorum presidency would render an invaluable service by having as a project the goal of all quorum members being sealed to their families. Special attention to the servicemen's program is a major project for every quorum. Emphasis should be placed not only on the letter writing and sending newspapers and magazines to quorum members who are away from home but also on sending of gospel tracts. Preparation of graphs to illustrate quorum statistics constitutes another good project. Writing of a quorum history should also be considered as a worthy project. Obtaining newspaper and other publicity for quorum activity should likewise be listed among the projects for every quorum. There are numerous other functions which would constitute good quorum projects which might be mentioned, but each presidency should provide its own list according to the quorum needs.

The 1952 reports indicate that there were 2872 Melchizedek Priesthood quorum projects in the Church at that time.

GROUP PROJECTS

In many stakes in the Church, Melchizedek Priesthood quorums are composed of two or more groups living in different wards. The 1952 reports indicate that there were 1607 Melchizedek group projects in the Church last year. Thus, nearly thirty-six percent of the Melchizedek Priesthood projects were conducted on the group level. These projects should be conducted under the direction of the quorum presidencies, are subject to quorum jurisdiction, and the proceeds from them should go into a common quorum fund.

In cases where Melchizedek groups belonging to the same quorum have projects, the quorum presidency should arrange for all groups in that particular quorum to have projects, in order that opportunities for work may be equally distributed and the proceeds equally shared. Experience has proved that by following such a policy Melchizedek Priesthood quorums become unified and strengthened.

DEVELOPING QUORUM CONSCIOUSNESS

All Melchizedek Priesthood functions should be conducted with the desire that quorum unity be strengthened and quorum consciousness become paramount in the minds of priesthood holders. In order to achieve this goal,

efforts should be put forth continually by quorum presidencies to discount the concept erroneously held by some that the group constitutes the priesthood unit. Priesthood holders should be taught that a quorum, not a group, constitutes a priesthood unit and that there is always strength in unity. Thus, every effort possible should be exerted by the presidencies of priesthood quorums to develop quorum consciousness in the minds of Melchizedek Priesthood holders.

QUORUM FUNDS

One of the best-known ways to develop quorum consciousness, unity, and strength is to place the proceeds or profits made from quorum projects, as well as those accrued from group projects within quorums, in a common quorum fund; therefore, the instructions of the General Authorities are for all Melchizedek Priesthood quorums throughout the Church to handle their funds according to this method. The disbursement of these funds is to be made by the presiding officers (or presidencies) of the quorums for general quorum purposes.

Individual groups are instructed not to accumulate group funds, separate from quorum funds, to be used for group purposes. Experience has proved definitely that in cases where such has been the case there was a general tendency toward the weakening of the quorums, and numerous cases could be cited wherein disharmony and actual disunity of quorums were brought about as a result of groups having their individual funds administered on a group basis. Since handling funds on a group basis results in establishing the group, instead of the quorum, as the unit, such a practice, if it now prevails, should be discontinued.

"DESTINY"

By Robert A. Palmer

I WASN'T born to build highways
Or scale mountains—
I wasn't made to thrill the multitude with song
Or paint for posterity to see.
I didn't come to this world to woo mankind
With great talents all my own.
God gave me a smile
To cheer the sorrowful,
A cheerful laugh to brighten life's path.
He taught me love from his plentiful supply.
God let me feel his tender touch,
That I might show others sympathy.
He burned within my soul
A willingness to serve
And gave me happiness divine!

The *Melchizedek Priesthood Handbook*, page 51, gives the following instructions relative to group funds and their disbursements:

Every quorum should build up a quorum fund to income yielding quorum projects, contributions, assessments or other co-operative means. Such a fund should always be at the disposal of the quorum as a means of meeting quorum expenditures. . . .

Neither the president of the quorum nor his counselors, nor quorum members are authorized to use money belonging to the quorum fund. Every expenditure for quorum funds should be upon the vote of the quorum—not necessarily as to details, but in general. The quorum should be made aware of every proposed project and expenditure and be party to it by voting for it. Then the actual draft upon the quorum funds should be made upon an order signed by the quorum president and preferably also by his two counselors.

GENERAL RULES REGARDING QUORUM FUNDS

A few general rules regarding quorum funds should be kept in mind. First: quorum presidencies are the authorized receivers and custodians of all quorum funds. Second: all proposed expenditures before being made should be presented to the quorum for approval. Third: the actual draft upon quorum funds should be signed by at least two of the quorum officers. Fourth: all funds collected for special purposes and also quorum allotments for the welfare program should be spent for the purposes for which said funds were raised. Fifth: if surplus funds accumulate, they may be disbursed by vote of the quorum.

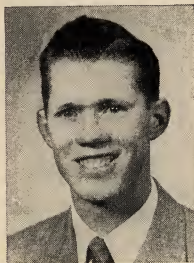
FUNDS FOR THE SUPPORT OF MISSIONARIES

Priesthood quorums throughout the Church which have surplus funds, as well as individual Church members, are invited to send contributions to the First Presidency to be used in helping to defray the expenses of local fulltime foreign missionaries who can spend their full time in foreign missionary service but are not able to supply the means for their support. Of course the Church policy is today, as it has always been, for missionaries to pay their own expenses, if possible, while rendering missionary service for the Church. The quorum funds sent to the First Presidency or contributions made by individual members of the Church are used only in exceptional cases of dire necessity for local missionaries whose homes are in foreign missions, and not for missionaries from the stakes of Zion.



The Presiding

Challenging Record



KAY DON CHRISTENSEN

Kay Don has never been absent from a priesthood or sacrament meeting, Sunday School or Y.M.M.I.A. since he was ordained a deacon seven and one-half years ago. He has been an elder the past six months and his perfect attendance record continues.

Kay Don is the son of J. Auraul and Naomi Christensen, Preston Sixth Ward, Franklin (Idaho) Stake.

The Presiding Bishopric invites each young man of Aaronic Priesthood age with a perfect attendance record for two years or more to submit his photograph and a record of his activities for publication.

WEST POCATELLO STAKE HONOR MOTHERS AND SONS

Proud mothers, West Pocatello (Idaho) Stake, sit in front of their sons, who were given deserved recognition for perfect attendance records at priesthood and sacrament meetings. Records in excess of one year are indicated.

Left to right, mother and son: Mrs. Harle Reed and DeLoe, 2; Mrs. Carl Belnap and Varr, 3; and Keith, 3; Mrs. Fred Parrish and Rodney; Mrs. Lawrence Potter and LaMar, 2; Mrs. Dallas Parr and Reed; Mrs. Homer Robertson and Jay; Mrs. Robert E. Dye and Therral, 2.

James Woodland, with a perfect record for two years, and his mother, were too far left to be included in the photo. Robert Dahmar, Wayne Sundel, Robert Smith, and their mothers were not present when the photograph was taken.

Ward Teachers to Teach as Prompted by the Spirit

TEACHING the gospel in this Church is a sacred duty. Those who accept this responsibility are expected to teach as they are directed by the Spirit. Ward teachers are no exception.

Paul emphasized the importance of this quality in successful teaching:

And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. (1 Cor. 2:1-2, 4-5.)

In the same epistle, Paul stressed the need for teachers to stand out as beacons:

For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? (*Ibid.*, 14:8.)

Ward teachers, therefore, should be

firmly anchored in truth, having an abiding faith in God, a knowledge of the fundamental doctrines of the Church, an unwavering testimony of the gospel, and a sincere desire to teach as prompted by the Spirit.

The Lord, speaking to Joseph Smith in this dispensation, gave further direction to those who would teach:

... teach the principles of my gospel, which are in the Bible and the Book of Mormon, in the which is the fulness of the gospel.

And they shall observe the covenants and church articles to do them, and these shall be their teachings, as they shall be directed by the Spirit.

And the Spirit shall be given unto you by the prayer of faith; and if ye receive not the Spirit ye shall not teach. (D. & C. 42:2-14.)

The outlines in the "Study Guide and Report Book for Ward Teachers" have been prepared to provide proper subject matter as the basis of the discussion with the family. However, maximum success can only be achieved when ward teachers, through humility, rely on the spirit for inspiration and guidance in their teaching.



RIVERDALE STAKE BEGINS WITH EMPHASIS ON AARONIC PRIESTHOOD WORK

The Riverdale (Utah) Stake, organized November 30, 1952, began immediately to place emphasis on Aaronic Priesthood work as witness this gathering of three hundred Aaronic Priesthood bearers and their leaders as banquet guests of the stake presidency.

A spicy variety program followed the serving of the banquet.

Bishop Carl W. Buehner, counselor in the Presiding Bishopric, was the featured guest speaker of the evening.





Our Tribute to President David O. McKay

PRESIDENT David O. McKay is pre-eminently the composite of all we expect to see in the best of men.

Without reservation, we honor this mighty prophet, seer, and revelator, this great presiding high priest, who is the living oracle of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eighty years in the school of life have so leavened his character as to make it synonymous with everything of good report or praiseworthy. The eloquency of his words is sustained in the becoming dignity of his every act. He asks no man to do that which he does not do himself. His example is worthy of the closest emulation by all.

There seems to be no time when President McKay is not at his best. He is never less great than he has been. He is ever greater than he was before. He is progressive, forward looking, indomitable. He is not vainly proud, but the pride of his righteous heart beats out, in holy rhythm, the increasing tempo of the abundant life.

He stands today on an eminence where all the plateaus of life are easily brought into focus before him. He leads as a prophet; he sees as a seer; he counsels as a revelator!

President McKay is as much at ease in the presence of the world's mighty as he is in the company of God's little ones. Children love him; great ones admire him; everyone respects him.

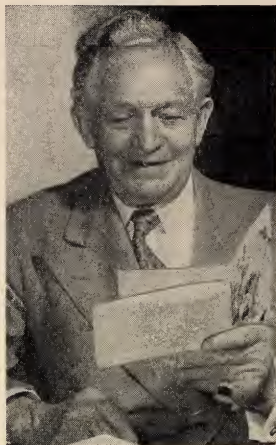
The warmth of his greeting, the depth of his friendship, the smile of his approval, his handshake, are succor to the soul.

As the Presiding Bishopric, we thank our heavenly Father for President David O. McKay. We pray for many happy returns of the day which marks the eightieth anniversary of his birth. We pray it may please our Lord to spare him to the Church, the Saints, and the world for many years to come.

God bless his body and his great mind that their every faculty may respond to the sensitive will of his invincible spirit as long as he lives.

THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC

Joseph H. Waggoner
Thorne B. Isaacson
Carl W. Buchner



Aaronic Priesthood Under 21

Confidences Considered As Sacred Trusts

EVERY effective leader of boys has, at one time or another, experienced that sacred moment when a boy bares his soul and confides in his leader. There is a tremendous responsibility imposed in such disclosures. Then and there the stage is set for either securing a lasting friendship or destroying one. The leader himself determines which it will be.

No bonds of friendship can long withstand the betrayal of confidences. A person who does not consider confidences as sacred and inviolable is unworthy of the treasured blessings of friendship. Any person who cannot, or who does not, keep confidences will very soon have no confidences to keep.

This is especially important in our dealings, as leaders, with boys in the Aaronic Priesthood. One who is worthy of confidences will never betray them.

If others, his parents or the bishop, for instance, should be included in such confidential disclosures, work it out with the boy, show him how such extension will prove a blessing to him. If you secure his agreement that others be informed, he will forever respect you and look to you as one who can be trusted. Whereas, if you go ahead and tell others, without his knowledge and consent, after you have given your word of honor that you will keep his trust, how much good do you think you will have done—how much harm?

Guard well your actions, your word of honor, if you would be trusted by boys.

Cottage Meetings for Priests

THE ninth requirement for the Individual Aaronic Priesthood Award specifies that a priest must speak in two or more cottage meetings for priests during the year.

It should be clearly understood that these addresses are in addition to "one or more public addresses in a Church meeting" as set forth under requirement number six.

Today's Family-

IRIS PARKER
Editor

Favorite Sunday Night Supper

of

Norma P. Anderson



Norma P. Anderson

MEET Sister Norma Anderson, housewife, Church woman extraordinary. How she finds time in a twenty-four-hour day for all her baking, knitting, cleaning, gardening, neighboring, and church-going remains a mystery to those who try to keep pace with her, but she manages and is serene and lovely through it all.

First of all, Sister Anderson is a devoted wife and mother—and all the other charming, generous, womanly traits that endear her to all who know her seem to follow as a matter of course.

As a cook, her most enthusiastic cheering section is composed of the members of her family, which include her husband, Elder Joseph W. Anderson, secretary to the First Presidency; children Bette (Mrs. V. W. Peterson), J. Robert, and Elaine; her father, Hugo D. E. Peterson, ninety-three years of age, who has made his home with the Andersons for the past sixteen years; and her niece, Marie Zobell, also a member of the family. Then there are five small grandchildren who know there is something gala about even "a snack" at Mommy Norma's.

Neighbors and friends also benefit from the generosity and cooking skill of Sister Anderson, who somehow finds time to concoct and deliver that surprise gift—a loaf of bread, a plate of cookies, or one of her light and luscious sponge cakes. Members of the general boards of the M.I.A. would feel as if an institute were a

partial failure if Sister Anderson went along without a box of her famous chocolate eclairs.

It would be a delight to join the hospitable and gracious Joseph W. Andersons around the dinner table some evening. You would be welcome almost any night except Sunday—that's "family night" when Sister Anderson entertains her sisters and their families or the Andersons dine at Aunt Vi's or Aunt Mildred's. Of course it isn't possible for all of us to enjoy a meal prepared by Sister Anderson. It would take some two thousand years for her to entertain all those who might read this article (if she invited a group of us each week) so let's do next best and share in her favorite Sunday night supper menu:

Frosted Grapefruit (or Pineapple)
Cocktail*

Cheese and Ham Sandwich Souffle*
Tossed Green Salad with French Dressing
Fruit or melon in season, with Filled Cookies* or a Chocolate Eclair*
Lemonade or other beverage

Frosted Grapefruit (or Pineapple)
Cocktail

1 cup water
1/2 cup sugar
1 No. 2 can grapefruit (or crushed pineapple, adding juice of 1 lemon)
10 to 12 maraschino cherries
ginger ale

Make a syrup of the water and sugar. Cool. Beat grapefruit well to break up sections. Add syrup and maraschino cherries cut into small pieces. Freeze to mush. Fill sherbert glasses about half full. Add a little ginger ale and serve with small piece of frosted mint (dip sprig of mint into granulated sugar). Serves about eight.

Cheese and Ham Sandwich Souffle

4 slices of white bread, buttered
4 slices of whole wheat bread, buttered
4 slices cheese
4 slices ham
3 eggs
3 cups milk
1/2 cup grated cheese
dash of paprika

Place one slice of cheese and one of ham on each slice of white bread. Then top with whole wheat bread. Arrange in well buttered casserole. Beat eggs slightly, add milk, and pour over sandwiches. Sprinkle with grated cheese and paprika. Place casserole in pan of hot water and bake at 350° F. until firm. Serve with sprig of parsley.

This dish is better if made in the morning and refrigerated until time to bake. One half hour should be added to baking time if this method is used.

It is a good recipe to add that extra egg and milk to the family's diet.

Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Filled Cookies

Filling:

1 1/2 cups raisins or chopped dates
1 1/2 cups sugar

Know Your L.D.S. Cooks

*Recipes included in this article.

- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup nut meats

Combine sugar and flour. Then add raisins or dates and nut meats and boiling water. Cook three minutes or until thick. Cool.

Cookies:

- 1 cup butter or substitute
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 3 cups flour—plus
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream shortening and sugar. Add unbeaten egg and beat. Add vanilla and milk alternately with flour, salt, and baking powder which has been sifted together. Roll very thin on well floured cloth and cut into rounds. Place teaspoon filling on half of rounds. Top with remaining rounds and press edges together. Bake at 375° F. 12 to 15 minutes.

The above cookie recipe is a prize winner. During World War II a cooking school was held at the Hotel Utah. The women of Salt Lake City were asked to bring some of their favorite cookies to the school to be distributed to the servicemen stationed here. The cookies were judged by the servicemen and this filled cookie was selected by them as their number one choice. Sister Anderson was presented with a bond as an award.

Chocolate Eclairs

Cream Filling:

- 2 cups milk
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 3 egg yolks or 2 whole eggs
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla
- pinch of salt
- 1 cup whipped cream

Mix dry ingredients and add enough milk to make a paste. Scald the rest of the milk and add paste carefully. Stir constantly until thickened. Cook 10 minutes. Blend with beaten eggs and cook one minute, stirring all the time. Cool, add vanilla and whipped cream.

Eclairs:

- 1 cup water
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter or substitute
- 4 eggs
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup unsifted flour

Heat fat and water. Add flour and salt and stir until mixture forms a ball. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Add beaten eggs, one at a time, beating thoroughly after each addition. Shape

(Concluded on following page)

LOOK HOW BOYCO'S POPPY BARROW CUTS GARDENING WORK



YOU MAKE FEWER TRIPS when moving dirt or mulch about the yard, for the Poppy Barrow holds a full $3\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. heaped. Stands up under the load, too, because it's built of steel... strong yet light. When not in use, tucks away in small 2' x 2' corner.

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OTHER HOUSEHOLD CHORES ARE A CINCH when you put your Poppy Barrow to work. It makes an ideal cement mixing trough and is also tops as a barbecue. Just add a couple inches of sand and a steel grill, and your Barrow's ready to sizzle up some really tasty steaks.

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M.C.P. Uncooked Jams are simply "tops" in flavor (and color) for, without cooking and boiling, you use "flavor-guard." ALL the fresh fruit flavor. Use less fruit and sugar, too. This method is best for small batches, as these jams must be kept in the refrigerator. For flavor and color, though... oh, boy! (Write the M.C.P. Kitchen Laboratory, Anaheim, Calif., for the M.C.P. uncooked jam recipes; they're so new they're not in the folder in the pectin package.)

M.C.P. Cooked Jams can be kept on the pantry shelf... but the necessary cooking that makes shelf storage possible does cause some loss of fresh fruit flavor compared with the uncooked jams. Even the shortest boils cannot "flavor-guard" this difference.

You Can Be Sure of this—dependable M.C.P. PECTIN assures successful results every time... whether you make cooked or uncooked jams!

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YOU'LL FIND DOZENS OF WAYS TO USE IT THE YEAR 'ROUND!



Almost Daily there's a use for lemon juice in most homes... in baking and cooking, for refreshing lemonade, in salad dressings, as a "tonic" in a glass of water... mention just a few. The convenient, economical way to meet these needs is M.C.P. LEMON JUICE. It's pure, unadulterated, rich in Vitamin C, and contains no preservatives (aluminum dioxide or benzoate of soda). Keep M.C.P. LEMON JUICE on hand at all times... it's ready for instant use, costs less than home squeezed juice. Get the Recipe Folder by writing the M.C.P. Kitchen Laboratory, Anaheim, Calif. (There's M.C.P. FROZEN LEMON JUICE, too. If your grocer doesn't stock it, he can get it for you.)

(Continued from preceding page)
into eclairs, 4 by 1-inch strips on greased baking sheet two inches apart. Bake at 400°F. for 30 minutes. Reduce heat to 300°F. and continue to bake until eclairs are dry. When done, split lengthwise and fill with cream filling. Cover tops with chocolate icing.

Icing:

- 1 square unsweetened chocolate
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons cream or canned milk
- 2 cups confectioner's sugar (approx.)
- ½ teaspoon vanilla

Melt chocolate and butter over hot water. Add cream and enough sifted confectioner's sugar to make the right consistency to spread—about two cups. Beat well.

THERE you have it—Sister Norma Anderson's favorite Sunday night supper—and her own recipes for some of the dishes. Try out this menu while the weather is still warm. It's a special treat then—or anytime.

Cooking isn't Sister Anderson's only artistic skill. She does all types of lovely handwork—knitting, crocheting, hairpin lace, rugs, and needle point. She is just finishing her fifth large afghan, and she has made a dozen or

so beautiful stoles for her family and friends.

She has always kept a beautiful and orderly home and isn't averse to taking up a paint brush if she feels the lack of sparkling color somewhere in the house. Along with it all she has found time for ten years' service on the Y.W.M.I.A. general board. Mutual workers throughout the Church are familiar with her inspired contributions in the Gleaner, Junior Gleaner, and Speech departments.

Elder Anderson, a quiet man, is loud in his praise of his wife for her devotion to her family, home, and Church. Her general board duties may take her away from home for a week at a time, but she always leaves a well-stocked icebox, bread box, and cookie jar, and menus to last during her absence, so that Elaine and Marie have little trouble in preparing the wholesome, appetizing meals to which the family is accustomed.

It's little wonder that Joseph Anderson would find even these words of the poet inadequate—

"Tis joy to him that toils, when toil is
o'er,
To find home waiting, full of happy
things."

¹Euripides, *Electra*.

Let's Enrol in Seminary

By Frank W. McGhie

DURING World War II an ex-seminary student was spotted by the writer on the front row of a Wai-kiki Ward Sunday School class. He was known as an outstanding young man who had been a credit to the seminary in which he had been enrolled and by all of the auxiliary organizations where he had been active. He, the writer, who was teaching the class that morning, called the young man to the front of the group (which numbered about eight hundred) to tell a little of himself—of where he had been in army service, and what he was doing in Honolulu, and where he was going.

The young man told the class that morning that he could not tell where he was going (he did not know himself) but he did tell the class, in a very thrilling fashion, of his experiences in a country behind the iron curtain. He revealed the value of

the ideals and standards which had become part of him as a result of seminary and other auxiliary training in which he had been faithful.

The boy had been placed in the home of one of the leading citizens of that country behind the iron curtain, and because of his apparent superior training and education he was asked to be a teacher and tutor of the family of the premier. The boy, because of the purity of his life and his outstanding personality, was taken into the hearts of the entire family. In the family were two boys, Peter and Paul, about ten and fourteen years of age. While he was teaching the boys English, he decided it would also be his duty to reveal his testimony and tell them about the Church and modern revelation. He also decided to teach them about the Word of Wisdom. For several months he guided them.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

His instructions concerning the Word of Wisdom made a profound impression, so much so that the boys came into his study one morning with an interesting announcement. They said, "We have decided to pledge to you at this time our intention of living the Word of Wisdom from now on forever." This young L.D.S. teacher and friend of the boys was very gratified that his instructions had made such an impression.

The seminaries and institutes of the Church provide spiritual instruction for some thirty-six thousand students and also develop activities and projects which will enrich the lives of all who enrol in the classes.

The youth of the Church cannot afford to pass up enrolment and participation in our seminaries and institutes. The plan for weekday religious education is unique in these United States. The religious instruction will make for a well-rounded and balanced personality. The young people will be in good company. They will be constantly made aware of high standards and ideals, the L.D.S. way of living. They will develop testimonies or at least receive the foundation for a testimony of the truthfulness of the gospel. They will receive instruction which will make them better prepared to fill missions for the Church when the opportunity comes.

Great lessons of life are taught in our seminaries, and there is fun and good fellowship for all. The rich standards and ideals of L.D.S. youth will make a lasting impression and make them better prepared to meet the carnal experiences which will confront so many of our young men who will do service for their country. If ever there was a time when the youth of the Church need to be fortified with a rich philosophy of life and with a firm resolve to live a clean, moral life it is during these troubled times in which we live.

ADVENT OF AUTUMN

By Raymond Bottom

THE grass has withered blade by blade
And turned to somber brown
Except for spangled groves and glades
Where flashing leaves float down.
The pumpkin shows his yellow face
Through rustling, brown cornstalks.
The dead vines clearly show the trace
Where old Jack Frost has walked.
From thickets in a nearby field
A bobwhite whistles clear;
It's now the heart is truly thrilled
To know that autumn's here.

SEPTEMBER 1953



Delight your child. Make a fruit face on top of his cereal. Easy. Use bits of fruit... like this cowboy made with raisins.

Young "Cowboys" thrive on WHEAT HEARTS

This creamy hot cereal... this cereal with the *wonderful* toasted wheat germ goodness... has nourished children and adults in the West for 4 generations. Kids love it, adults by hundreds voted it a 2 to 1 favorite for flavor.

Contains wheat germ. Many doctors recommend Wheat Hearts because this cereal contains wheat germ—6 times more than whole wheat itself. It helps promote growth, good appetite, strong bodies. Adults benefit, too. Older folks especially find Wheat Hearts a good way to help build up energy and vigor. Enjoy it every morning. Queen Bess pattern silverware coupon on box.

Contains Wheat Germ
1 penny a serving
3 minutes to cook

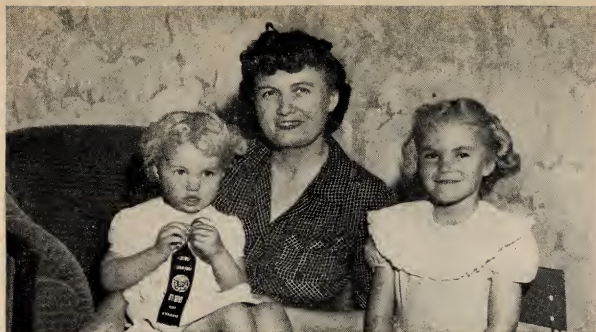


It's
Sperry
Good!



WHEAT HEARTS

"SPERRY" AND "WHEAT HEARTS" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF GENERAL MILLS, INC.



Blackfoot, Idaho, woman takes first and third prizes

Busy Mother Wins Top Cooking Awards

Little Kathleen holds one of her mother's prize ribbons while sister Carol smiles proudly. Mrs. LeRoi Barclay has been winning cooking contests at the Eastern Idaho State Fair for 6 years now—and just last year took 2 top awards.

Expert cook Mrs. Barclay gives lots of credit to Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast. "It's the handiest ever," she says. "Keeps for months!"

Prize-winning cooks everywhere choose Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast. Out of 5000 winners surveyed, 97 per cent prefer Fleischmann's. It's so much handier than old-style cake yeast; keeps for months on your pantry shelf. And it always rises fast. Now when you bake at home, it's convenient to use yeast. But use the best—look for the label that says Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast.

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IN THE VERY HEART OF

LOS ANGELES

The Salt, Please

by Ruth K. Kent

EDITOR'S NOTE

Remember the "salt" story that was going the rounds of the entertainment world a few years back—about the amazing amount of salt one merchant had on hand? Salt was occupying a large portion of his shelf space, and there was more in the back room. In the basement it was stacked clear to the ceiling. A friend commented on the large supply of salt he had on hand. "You must sell a lot of salt," he said. "No, I don't," confessed the well-stocked grocer, "but that salesman who comes around—can he sell salt!" (Obviously our merchant didn't know of the many uses for salt.)

SALT has so many uses that it pays to buy it in a large quantity.

Salt is a good substitute for tooth powder.

Gargle with salt water for a sore throat.

If the feet are tired, bathe them in a salt solution.

A pinch of salt added to rhubarb sauce takes away the sharp taste. When added to other stewed fruit, salt cuts down on the amount of sugar needed. Also add a pinch of salt to fruit pies.

Add a little salt when making jams and jellies and when canning fruit.

Cook eggs in salt water to prevent the egg running out if the egg shell cracks.

Cook potatoes in salt water for ten minutes before baking, and you will have a softer shell and save fuel as well.

Soak nuts in salt water before shelling, and they will be easier to shell.

Salt will help remove discoloration from enamel ranges and oven fronts.

Sprinkle a little salt in the oven if a dish has run over, and it will prevent smoking until the oven can be cleaned.

If there is no refrigeration, keep butter immersed in salt water.

Salt and turpentine will clean the bathtub and other porcelain surfaces without scratching the finish.

Sprinkle salt on frozen meat to hasten the thawing process.

Soak hard-to-clean vases in salt water.

Rub salt on the hands after peeling onions and cleaning fish.

Soak the fishy frying pan in salt water.

THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

Sprinkle salt over sputtering grease to keep it from splashing.

Sprinkle dampened salt on the rug; then sweep, and there will be no dust. This brings out the colors, too, and may be used when vacuuming.

Salt added to the laundry starch will prevent its sticking.

Soak handkerchiefs in salt water to make them wash more easily.

Perspiration stains will leave no odor if soaked in salt.

Put a handful of salt in the bluing water to keep it from streaking.

Put dry salt around the edges of the basement floor to keep out insects; also in any cracks in the floor.

Put salt in the cracks in the sidewalk to keep grass from growing in them.

Sprinkle salt on the icy steps and sidewalk to prevent accidents.

In bad weather take a ladder and sprinkle salt in the house gutters to keep them from freezing and the water backing into the house.

Wash the windows with salt water in winter to prevent freezing.

Rub salt on the outside of a ham to keep it from molding. It is easy to wash off.

Soak peeled fruit in salt water to keep it from oxidizing and turning black.

And last but not least, keep the salt cellars filled. People's taste for salt varies. Oversalting food is unfor-
givable. But give everyone a chance to shake on as much as he likes. There is nothing like salt to bring out the flavor in foods.

THE MODERN KITCHEN

By Thelma Ireland

*Our grandma had a hired girl
To help her with her work,
But with our modern gadgets
now*

We can all drudgery shirk.

*With automatic washers,
stoves,*

*Deep freezes, and such gear,
We do not need a hired girl—
We need an engineer!*

"Why all our family cats ALL-O-WHEAT

• **MOMMY SAYS**, "It costs so little . . . cooks quickly in 3-5 minutes. Regular size package makes 24 generous servings . . . a little more than a penny a serving."

• **DADDY SAYS**, "It's Magic-Milled" . . . no vitamin loss, so it needs no enriching. Vitamins A, B, E, G, just as nature intended for lasting all-day energy. No mid-morning energy let-down."

• **KIDS SAY**, "Mmmm, we sure go for rich, golden All-O-Wheat flavor. Tastes so good . . . especially when sweetened with brown sugar, honey, or fruit."



"A breakfast treat that can't be beat"

Pick up a package today at your grocers, or write to . . .

ALL-O-WHEAT

Breakfast Wheat — Rolled Wheat Flakes
Stone-ground Whole Wheat Flour

OGDEN, UTAH

Fritos RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Fritos Squash and Onion Casserole

Serves 8

6 medium Summer Squash (yellow or white)	3 tbsps. Bacon Drippings
1 medium Onion	½ cup Grated American Cheese
1½ cups Boiling Water	½ cup lightly crushed Fritos Corn Chips (measured after crushing)
1½ tps. Salt	
¼ tsp. Pepper	

Directions:

Pare squash and onion. Cut into medium slices. Boil in salt water until tender. Add pepper and bacon drippings. Pour into a greased casserole. Top with grated cheese and crushed Fritos corn chips. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Fritos is the registered trade-mark of the Frito Co.



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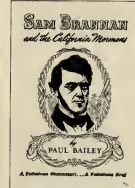
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IF I WERE A BOY AGAIN

by Oscar A. Kirkham

OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF THE SEVENTY

IF I WERE a boy again, I would like some worthy man such as my father to come early into my life. My father was a man of great faith and spirituality. One year his equipment had been destroyed by fire when his grain was ready to be harvested. He prayed earnestly while in his field for the Lord to bless him that he might somehow find help and harvest his crop. No sooner had he arisen from his prayer, than a neighbor, a friend, passing by, stopped and said to Father, "James, I noticed that your grain is about ready to harvest. Mine is also ready. Let me know when I may come, and I will cut yours for you. I know you have lost nearly all of your equipment." Father's prayers were answered. We were all happy and grateful.

I would like this man who comes early into my life to build a fire in me that would never go out: a fire of inspiration, a fire of righteousness,

that would stimulate my imagination and give me faith that I would and could do my best for the right, and enjoy it! He might be a quorum or a Sunday School leader, a scoutmaster, or someone else. I would want to be so impressed by him that I would take some worthy course and follow it to some noble end. I would want him to be so sincerely interested in me that he would kneel with me occasionally in prayer. I would want to feel that he was so sincere and so near the Lord, that I felt the need of being like him. I would want him to be patient and take the small spark which he had lighted in my soul and encourage it to grow ever and ever and burn larger and brighter.

Because of my nature, I knew he would have to give me much sincere encouragement and real practical help. I hope that his good example

(Continued on page 716)



—Harold M. Lambert

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If I Were a Boy Again

(Continued from page 714)

would be so real and strong, that it would impel me to do what is right—and enjoy it. The great Emerson has said, "What we need most is someone who will make us do what we can do."

Oh, if I were a boy again, I would like a man like this to be with me to guide me and bless me and direct me. It is a great opportunity for a boy to meet early in life a real Christian man who will be interested in him, setting a good example and giving real help.

If I were a boy again, I would want to have friends to enjoy. Real friends. I would like to travel with a clean crowd, with friends that would help me to keep straight: friends with whom I could have fun, high adventure, to climb the great Rockies, Timpanogos, the Tetons, Mount Whitney, and to light our campfires together at a place like the Waterton Lakes or Lake Tahoe. I would want to keep on the scouting trail until I became at least an Eagle Scout. On my twelfth birthday, I would like to join with my worthy friends and be ordained a deacon and continue with them in the priesthood work until we were found worthy to be called on a mission for our Church. Yes, these would be my friends to enjoy. It is a great privilege "to grow up" with real friends.

If I were a boy again, I would study great characters to emulate. Among whom would be Nephi of the Book of Mormon: He, who when his brothers murmured and said it was a hard thing to do to return to Jerusalem to obtain the plates, showed his strength and faith of character and said: "I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them." (1 Nephi 3:7.)

I like the story of Moses, the great leader of Israel, who led his people from slavery to the promised land. He was full of courage and faith—faith great enough to turn back the waters of the sea, faith enough to bring manna from heaven, faith to bring water from a rock. If I were a boy again, I would like to



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know more of Moses. I would like to have faith and courage as he had.

The life experiences and teachings of Joseph Smith have been a great inspiration to me. If I were a boy again, I would like to be like him. When he prayed to the Lord for wisdom and guidance and he read the answer—"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:5)—he did not hesitate. He went to a grove of beautiful trees and in true faith he asked the Lord. The answer came, and "he listened to the Lord." I would like to be blessed of the Lord as he was.

Then the Lord will be my strength and my song, and he will become my salvation. Then his right hand will become glorious in power. Yes, if I were a boy again, I would seek to know and seek and strive to do these things.

Her Far-vision Glasses

by Florence J. Johnson

I HAD a rude awakening the other day. It was quite a shock to my inflated ego. I had been mentally patting myself on the back because of the number of things I was able to do. Besides, the praise I had received sounded very sweet in my ears—but the praise didn't come from those who really counted.

(Continued on following page)



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Her Far-vision Glasses

(Continued from preceding page)

It happened this way—

Diana May, the youngest, had come up to me for a bedtime story, but I was facing a desk covered with reports that must be turned in before a dead line that was uncomfortably close.

"You never have time," she told me tearfully.

"Mom is wearing her far-vision glasses." Frank, our high school senior son observed.

I turned back to the reports, but somehow they had lost their interest. I glanced around the room. We were members of a family gathered in one room, but we were not a family. We were separated by a wall that I had built—a wall of outside interests that shut them out.

Nothing more was said that night. I had to do a bit more thinking and also be open to attack from another quarter.

That came the next day when I was chatting over the back yard fence with my neighbor.

"I hardly see you these days, except coming or going," she said. "I'm having some of the neighbors in this afternoon and would like to have you come. You haven't met Mrs. Hudson yet, I believe."

"You mean the new family in the old Anderson home? No, I've been intending to call, but—" I stopped short. There was a peculiar light in my neighbor's eyes. I looked away. There was a break in the line of buildings, and I found myself looking at the far horizon. It started a train of thought. Was I too anxious about that which I could not see and ignoring the beauty and the duty that was close at hand and clearly visible?

"We have fields that need tillage here as well as those in more distant places and our grass is just as green as theirs."

I looked at my neighbor as she spoke. It took a great deal of courage for her to say it, for we were old friends. I knew I deserved the censure, even though I smarted under it.

"Thanks, Sue," I managed to say. "I needed that. I got a preliminary dose last night. I'll start adjusting my far-vision glasses, as Frank called them, this very day. Yes, I'll come over this afternoon, and thanks again."

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and

Best Wishes

to

President

David O. McKay

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THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

I hurried into the house. I had to readjust my plans and also do some telephoning. I would do more work in the local green pastures.

It took time. It didn't work out overnight. The family and the neighbors had to learn that the change in me was permanent, not just a passing phase.

But last night Diana May brought her storybook to me and said confidently:

"Read, Mummy, please. Read about Goldilocks." I did. Then the whole family joined in. And when the clock struck the hour for evening prayers, my husband was reading aloud from *Don Quixote* and the older children were sitting around enthralled over this experience of sharing.

I had learned my lesson.

Are you looking too far afield?

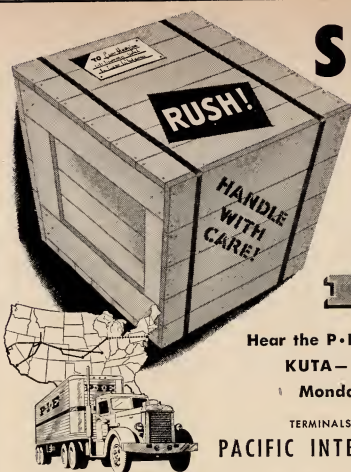
Are you sending your own children to the radio and to the movies for entertainment, instead of reviving the old custom of family-sharing-evenings?

Do you write long letters to friends and acquaintances at a distance and neglect that call on a new neighbor, a cheering visit to one who is ill?

Do you plan more entertainments for outsiders than you do for your own family? When did you have the last family evening?

We need to look beyond the horizon to a certain extent to avoid becoming self-centered, to give a helping hand when needed, but like so many things, our enthusiasm carries it on to the point where we neglect the home fields. It is necessary to find a happy medium.

Be warned. How well are you tilling the home fields?



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The Light Touch

Note: Here are two of President McKay's choice stories. We hope you'll enjoy them as we did:

President McKay frequently comments on the pride of the Welsh and those of Welsh descent. During his 1952 trip to Europe, his first visit was to Glasgow, Scotland, and the papers emphasized, in reporting the dedicatory service in Glasgow, the McKai name and the fact that his ancestors had come from Thurso, Scotland, that he had been there twenty-four years before, and so on. "Well," he says, "it seems that the Scotch part of my ancestry was overemphasized, in Brother John James' idea, and he called Thomas E. and said, 'Will you please tell your brother that the important part of his life is on his mother's side, and she was Welsh! Will you see that he makes a visit to Wales!'"

On one of President McKay's visits to Malad Stake many years ago—Malad having been settled by the Welsh—he commented to the stake president that he was of Welsh descent. The stake president shrugged his shoulders and suggested that President McKay said this merely because he was among the Welsh. Later, in stake conference, President McKay recounting this incident, concluded by saying: "My mother was born in Plasr y Lugan House, Clwyd de fagyr, Cefn Coed Cymmen, near Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales!"

An elderly little woman near the front jumped up and shouted, "That's it! That's it!"

REJOINDER

It happened in Philadelphia. A workman was busy stretching a long, unwieldy ladder in the direction of the Independence Hall clock tower when an inquisitive lady stopped in her stroll through the square and tapped him on the shoulder.

"Something wrong with the old timepiece?" she inquired.

"No, madam," came the crisp reply, "it's just that I'm a bit nearsighted."

ONE WAY OF DOING IT

A dignified-looking man, carrying a pair of woman's shoes, got on a bus. He had evidently planned to take them to a repair shop and had forgotten to wrap them.

A man seated opposite him appeared interested. Finally, he leaned over, tapped the dignified one on the knee, and said with a knowing wink:

"That's right, mister. Don't let her gad about!"

MIA MAIDS ROSE EVENING IN LINDA VISTA WARD

The Mia Maid class of Linda Vista Ward, San Diego (California) Stake, recently held their annual rose evening. The occasion was marked, as was the rest of the Mutual year for these girls, by a spirit of love, unity, friendship, and co-operation. The first picture is the presentation of the rose banquet to Maurine



Bakersfield, California

Dear Sir:

A FRIEND of mine has been sending me THE IMPROVEMENT ERA for the past two years.

At first I only glanced through it, then I started reading a few short articles. I became interested in your Church although I don't know much about it.

Last summer we drove through Salt Lake City. We visited the temple grounds and went on a tour. I enjoyed it so much.

The more I think about it, the more the desire to learn about the Church and its work comes to me.

Do you have any extra literature you could send me?

I would like any information I could receive.

Thank you,
/s/ Odessa Spangler

Hokkaido, Japan

Dear Editors:

I AM very grateful for THE IMPROVEMENT ERA and all that it offers.

As a former missionary I found THE IMPROVEMENT ERA of great value, both personally and as a missionary tool. Reading it now, as a serviceman, gives me comfort and companionship, knowledge and wisdom, and peace and strength. It is helpful during hours when I am depressed and lonely, and the talks of the General Authorities, especially, are an inspiration to my testimony.

Yes, I am grateful to THE IMPROVEMENT ERA and to you, the editors, for the work you do in publishing it. I offer my thanks and appreciation.

Sincerely,
/s/ Pvt. Hal H. Curtis

Stockton 5, California

Gentlemen:

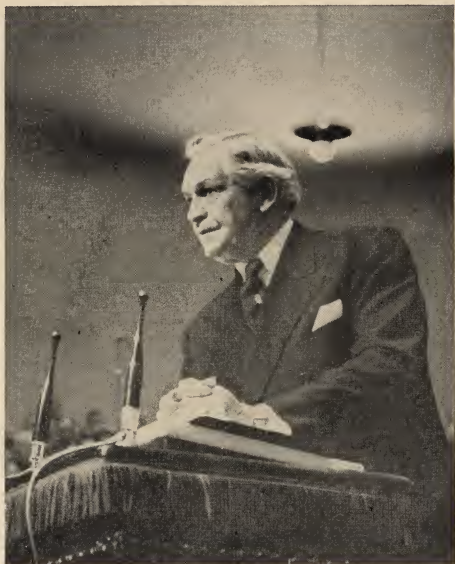
THROUGH a series of recent events, I had come to doubt the truth and validity of the gospel. Then—when my faith reached its lowest ebb, I received my current copy of the ERA. Indeed, it was like a star in the sky shining down especially for one such as I. I know once and forever more that this is the gospel of Jesus Christ. I should, therefore, like to share my faith in this gospel with those not privileged to live in this chosen land. Please find enclosed a money order for a foreign subscription—to be sent to the East German Mission—to help spread truth in the land of the Iron Curtain.

May God bless you all,

Sincerely,
(Miss) Marjorie D. Gelmstedt

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many good friends of
President David O. McKay
in extending to
him sincere good wishes on the
occasion of his
eightieth birthday
anniversary





**community service,
our watchword.**

President David O. McKay presides
over a session of an L.D.S. Conference.
We extend greetings to President
McKay on the occasion of his eightieth
birthday, September 8, 1953.

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A VISITOR WHO STAYED

Utah's industrial expansion program acquired one stalward when an excursion visitor decided to stay in UTAH. The visitor who stayed was the founder of what is now known as THE EIMCO CORPORATION.

EIMCO established in the middle 1880's is now one of UTAH's great manufacturing industries and the largest in the metal working class. With four large plants in Salt Lake City covering more than 27 acres and with branch offices and factories in many parts of the world,

EIMCO produces heavy mining, contracting and processing machinery which is shipped to all parts of the world. Less than 1/2 of 1 percent of the machines which Eimco builds are sold in the STATE OF UTAH.

More than a thousand employees on EIMCO'S payroll depend on the vigorous sales effort of its organization in the technical fields. Monies brought into our State take care of the payroll and tax burden imposed on Eimco which it is glad to assume to provide a better community program, to help support our educational system and maintain our good government.

Eimco products include: Drum, Disc, Top Feed, Pan and Pressure Continuous Vacuum Filters for the metallurgical, food, drug, chemical, petroleum and sewage fields. Underground and surface loading equipment for mining, tunneling and construction fields. Geared air motors for sawmills, chemical plants and mines. Air Locomotives. Ball, Rod and Tube Mills, Folding Scrapers and Uteley Mill Liners.

An aerial photograph showing a large industrial complex with several large buildings, parking lots, and surrounding infrastructure. The complex is situated in a flat, open area.

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President David O. McKay receives Honorary Master M Man citation from President Joseph Fielding Smith.

Enlarged replica of Master M Man pin.



The strength and vigor of America depend upon generation after generation of youth receiving the training and guidance that builds for the future.

President David O. McKay is symbolic of such a concept. President Joseph Fielding Smith, of the Council of Twelve, recently presented an Honorary Master M Man citation to President McKay, with these words:

"President McKay has stood as a strong, clear, guiding light to the youth of the Church for more than half a century."

When President McKay was one of six Americans honored by the Boy Scouts of America with the award of a Silver Buffalo, Elder Ezra Taft Benson said:

"If I were asked to select the most nearly perfect example for the youth of America and the world to follow, I could do no better than to select President David O. McKay."

Such inspiration remains with us forever — it is a source of everlasting strength.

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Today, 106 years later, Utah moves ahead in a wide range of fields — agriculture, manufacturing, mining, uranium production. But the hope of its future, like the glory of its past, still lies in its men — men such as David O. McKay whose 80th anniversary we salute today.

Sinclair is proud to have been a part of

Utah's past and plans to share in its bright future. In addition to the Company's sizable marketing investments here, the recently-completed Pioneer Pipe Line, which stretches 300 miles from Sinclair, Wyoming, to Salt Lake City, was constructed, and is partially owned, by Sinclair.

The new line, we think, does more than supply oil products to the inter-mountain region. It supplies ample evidence of Sinclair's deep faith in the future of the Great Western State whose symbol is the beehive . . . whose motto is *Industry* . . . and whose history has been one of growth and progress from its very first day.

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ON HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

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WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING BELIEFS AS A SOUND BASIS FOR THE FUTURE PROGRESS OF OUR GREAT NATION:

WE BELIEVE:

- ★ In the vigorous defense of the principles of individual free agency.
- ★ In the defense of the right of every man to own property, earn money honestly, save, invest and spend as he chooses.
- ★ That a man should be rewarded in accordance with his productive contribution to society and his honest effort.
- ★ That property rights cannot be taken away without infringing upon human rights.
- ★ That government's regulatory function should be based on law rather than directives.
- ★ That the Constitution was inspired of God and that individually and as a group we must support it as the basic law of the land.
- ★ That we must continue to fight against communism wherever and in whatever form it may be found.
- ★ That public officials should state their beliefs with respect to private capitalism, socialism and communism.
- ★ That a sound agricultural and national economy can be developed without war, force or regimentation.
- ★ That the possibility of lasting peace among the nations lies in adoption of true Christian principles.
- ★ That labor, industry and agriculture should cooperate together unselfishly for the nation's welfare.

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to so many people in all parts of the world.

It is indeed a privilege to honor him on his eightieth birthday, both as President of the Church and as chief executive of Beneficial Life Insurance Company.

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